DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

AY: 2025 – 2026

A Report of

Webinar

on

Generative AI - A Choice between Becoming Truly Intelligent or Comfortably Ignorant

Organized by

Builders Club & ED Cell

Under the aegis of

ASCE MITS Student Chapter

on

05 / 02 / 2026

Report Submitted by: Dr. Imran Kuttagola, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science.

Resource Person: Mr. Sanjeev Subramaniam, Senior Consultant, Equal Experts, Coimbatore.

Faculty Coordinators:

1. Dr. Imran Kuttagola, Builders Club Coordinator, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering
2. Dr. Nakkeeran G, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, MITS
3. Mrs. Kandukuri Anitha, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, MITS

Venue: LB 211

Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Mode of Conduct: Hybrid (Physical Venue: LB211 & Online Platform: Teams).

Attendees Count: 59 students and Faculty Members.

Objective of the Program

- To introduce participants to the concept of Generative AI and its transformative role in education, engineering, and industry.
- To create awareness about the benefits and limitations of AI tools**,** encouraging responsible and ethical usage.
- To highlight the relevance of Generative AI in Civil Engineering**,** including applications in design, planning, and data-driven decision-making.
- To motivate students to use AI as a learning and innovation tool**,** fostering critical thinking rather than passive dependence on technology.

Importance of the Program

- **Enhances awareness of emerging technologies:** The program introduces students to Generative AI as a transformative technology shaping modern engineering, research, and industry practices.
- **Bridges the gap between traditional learning and digital innovation:** It helps students understand how AI tools can complement classroom knowledge in design analysis, documentation, and problem-solving.
- **Promotes responsible and ethical use of AI:** The session emphasises the importance of using AI intelligently to support learning and creativity rather than becoming over-dependent on automated outputs.
- **Improves productivity and technical efficiency:** Students learn how AI can assist in data interpretation, report preparation, coding support, and project planning, saving time while enhancing accuracy.
- **Prepares students for future industry demands:** Exposure to AI-driven workflows equips aspiring civil engineers with skills relevant to smart construction, digital engineering, and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- **Encourages critical thinking and lifelong learning:** The program motivates students to adapt to rapidly evolving technologies and continuously upgrade their knowledge to remain competitive in the professional world.

Event details:

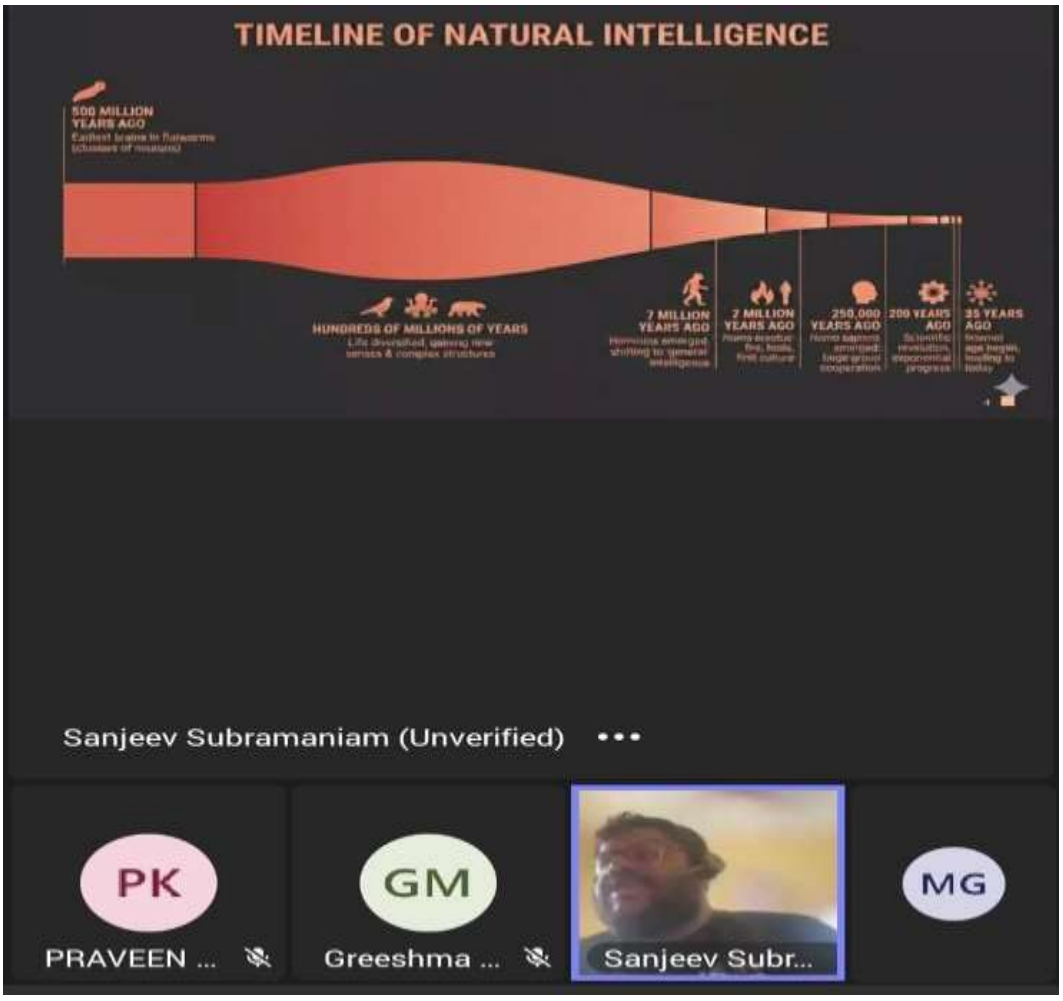
Builders Club, under the aegis of the ASCE MITS Student Chapter, Department of Civil Engineering, organized a Webinar on **"Generative AI – A Choice between Becoming Truly Intelligent or Comfortably Ignorant"** on **05 February 2026** at Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science (MITS). The session was conducted to create awareness among students about the growing influence of Generative Artificial Intelligence and its implications for learning, engineering practice, and future career readiness.

The event commenced with a welcome by the Builders Club Vice-President, who greeted the dignitaries, faculty members, and students. **Dr. Imran Kuttagola, Builders Club Faculty Coordinator**, initiated the session by emphasizing the importance of understanding emerging AI technologies and their relevance to civil engineering education, research, and professional practice. This was followed by an address from **Dr. Vijayakumar N., Head of the Department of Civil Engineering**, who highlighted how digital transformation and AI-driven tools are reshaping the construction industry, design processes, and project management practices. He encouraged students to adopt AI as an assistive technology for innovation while maintaining

strong fundamental engineering knowledge.

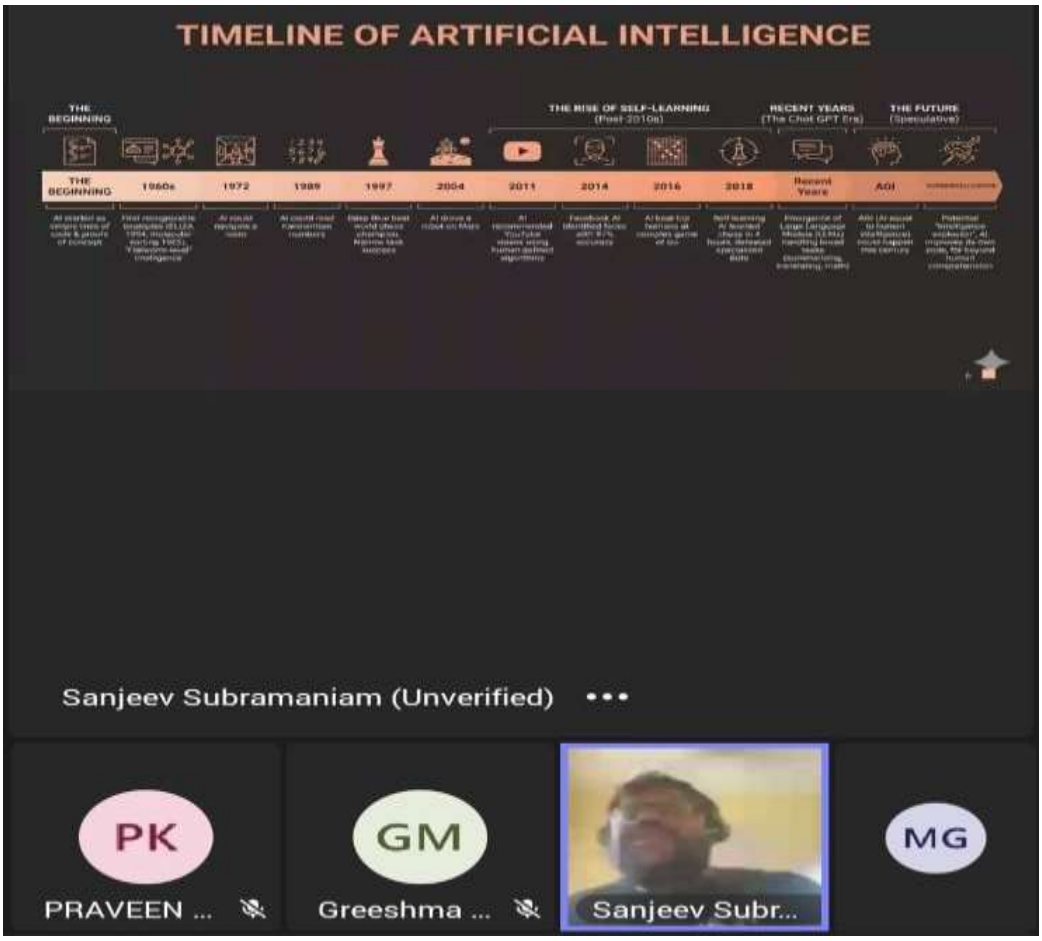
During the technical session, the resource person delivered an insightful talk on the concept of Generative AI, its working principles, and real-world applications in engineering and allied fields. The session explored how AI can support tasks such as data analysis, report generation, design visualisation, coding assistance, and smart decision-making, while also cautioning against over-reliance on automation. The speaker stressed the importance of using AI responsibly, ethically, and intelligently to enhance creativity, productivity, and problem-solving abilities rather than becoming passively dependent on it.

The interactive session allowed students to clarify their doubts regarding practical uses of AI tools in academics, project work, and future industry applications. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by **Ms. V. Shivani**, Student Coordinator of the **Builders Club**, who expressed gratitude to the management, Dean, HoD, resource person, and student participants for making the program a success.



Outcomes of the Event

- **Enhanced understanding of Generative AI concepts:** Students gained foundational knowledge about how Generative AI works and its growing significance in engineering and technological domains.
- **Awareness of AI applications in Civil Engineering:** Participants learned how AI tools can assist in areas such as data analysis, design support, documentation, project planning, and smart construction practices.
- **Improved digital readiness for future careers:** Students recognised the importance of adapting to AI-driven workflows and emerging technologies to remain competitive in the evolving engineering landscape.
- **Better clarity on balancing technology with fundamental knowledge:** The program reinforced the idea that AI should complement, not replace, core engineering understanding and creativity.



Program Outcomes (POs) Covered

- **PO1 – Engineering Knowledge:** Application of modern technological concepts such as Generative AI to understand and solve engineering-related problems.
- **PO5 – Modern Tool Usage:** Exposure to advanced digital tools and AI-based technologies, enabling students to utilize contemporary engineering and IT tools effectively.
- **PO6 – The Engineer and Society:** Understanding the societal impact of AI adoption, including ethical use, responsible decision-making, and awareness of technology's influence on professional practice.
- **PO12 – Life-long Learning:** Encouragement to continuously upgrade knowledge and skills in response to rapidly evolving technologies like Artificial Intelligence.

SDG Goals Aligned with the Event

1. **SDG 4 – Quality Education:** The webinar promoted inclusive and future-ready education by introducing students to emerging technologies like Generative AI, enhancing digital literacy and learning effectiveness.
2. **SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth:** By preparing students to adapt to AI-driven workplaces, the program supported skill development aligned with modern industry requirements and employability.
3. **SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure:** The session encouraged innovation through the integration of AI tools in engineering practices, contributing to the advancement of smart and sustainable infrastructure.
4. **SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production:** The program emphasized the ethical and responsible use of AI technologies, fostering mindful adoption of digital tools in professional and academic environments.

Conclusion:

The webinar on Generative AI - A Choice between Becoming Truly Intelligent or Comfortably Ignorant successfully created awareness among students about the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in modern engineering practices. The session provided valuable insights into the functioning, applications, and implications of Generative AI, particularly in the context of Civil Engineering, enabling participants to understand how these tools can enhance productivity, innovation, and problem-solving. It also emphasised the importance of using AI responsibly while maintaining strong fundamental knowledge and critical thinking skills. Overall, the event encouraged students to adopt a balanced approach, leveraging emerging technologies for professional growth while continuing to build core engineering competencies required for future challenges.