India seeks AI breakthrough - but is it falling behind?



Two years after ChatGPT took the world by storm, China's DeepSeek has sent ripples through the tech industry by collapsing the cost for developing generative artificial intelligence applications.

India seeks AI breakthrough - but is it falling behind?But as the global race for AI supremacy heats up, India appears to have fallen behind, especially in creating its own foundational language model that's used to power things like chatbots.

The government claims a homegrown equivalent to DeepSeek isn't far away. It is supplying startups, universities and researchers with thousands of high-end chips needed to develop it in under 10 months.A flurry of global AI leaders have also been talking up India's capabilities recently. With 200 startups working on generative AI, there's enough entrepreneurial activity under way too.

But despite having key ingredients for success in place, India risks lagging behind without basic structural fixes to education, research and state policy, experts say.China and the US already have a "four to five year head-start", having invested heavily in research