हरकोर्ट बटलर प्राविधिक विश्वविद्यालय
नवाबगंज, कानपुर – 208002, उ.प्र., भारत
HARCOURT BUTLER TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
NAWABGANJ, KANPUR - 208002, U.P., INDIA
(Formerly Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur)

Computer Science and Engineering Department, HBTU Kanpur

Expert Lecture Report on
How to Be Industry Ready in the AI Domain in the IT Sector

Organised by

Department of CSE, HBTU Kanpur on

18th August, 2025

1. Key Speaker

Mr. Avichal
Director, Cognizant, London, United Kingdom

2. Organizing Faculty

- Prof. Anita Yadav
- Dr. Bharat Bhushan Sagar

3. Number of Participants: 80+

4. Description of Attendance

The lecture was attended by **All the Faculty members of HBTU** and more than **eighty students** from the **Department of Computer Science and engineering.** The participation was highly encouraging and demonstrated strong student interest in industry-aligned technological advancements.

4. Glimpse of the Event

5. Objectives of the Lecture

The expert lecture aimed to:

1. Expose students to contemporary developments in Artificial Intelligence within the IT sector.
2. Familiarize students with industry expectations, skill requirements, and employability parameters.
3. Motivate learners to adopt a structured roadmap toward becoming industry-ready AI professionals.

4. Strengthen the institute–industry interface for enhancing student preparedness and professional competence.

---

6. Brief Overview of the Session

The session commenced with a formal welcome address delivered by the organizing faculty.
Mr. Avichal shared insights from his extensive global industry experience and provided a comprehensive overview of the evolving AI ecosystem in the IT domain. His lecture emphasized the pressing need for competency-based learning, multidisciplinary skills, and hands-on exposure.

Key points discussed:

a. AI Trends and Global Industry Scenario

- Rapid integration of AI in business processes, product engineering, automation, and data-driven decision-making.
- Emerging roles in AI Engineering, Data Science, and MLOps.
- Increasing demand for professionals with hybrid skill sets combining algorithmic knowledge, programming proficiency, and domain-specific understanding.

b. Technical Skills Expected by the Industry

- Strong command over **Python, Java, C++**.
- Proficiency in **Machine Learning**, **Deep Learning**, **Neural Networks**, **NLP**, and **Data Engineering**.
- Understanding of cloud environments such as **AWS, Azure, GCP**.
- Ability to work with datasets, data pipelines, and analytics tools.

c. Professional Competencies & Soft Skills

- Analytical thinking, effective communication, and problem-solving abilities.
- Adaptability and continuous learning mindset.
- Familiarity with **Agile methodologies** and collaborative project execution.

d. Career Opportunities

- AI/ML Engineer
- Data Scientist

- Business Intelligence Engineer
- AI Consultant
- Research/Innovation Analyst

e. Roadmap for Becoming Industry Ready

- Master fundamental mathematics and programming.
- Build small- to mid-level AI projects using open-source datasets.
- Participate in hackathons, internships, and open-source contributions.
- Maintain a professional GitHub portfolio and pursue recognized certifications.
- Prepare for competency-based technical interviews.

The session concluded with an interactive **Question–Answer** segment, during which students raised queries related to career pathways, project selection, overseas opportunities, and industrial challenges.

---

7. Student Response

Students reported that the lecture was highly insightful, well-structured, and practically oriented. The expert's global perspective and detailed guidance were appreciated for their relevance to current industry demands.

---

8. Conclusion

The expert lecture delivered by **Mr. Avichal**, Director at Cognizant, London (U.K.), proved to be a valuable academic–industry interaction. It significantly contributed to bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-time industrial expectations in the AI domain. The Department of Information Technology acknowledges the expert's contribution and looks forward to further collaborations for enhancing student readiness and professional excellence.