

## AI IN INDIA

# The Great Leveller: IT's Rise, Fall, and the AI Era

By Mahesh Ramanujam, FCA · March 13, 2026 · [promptedgrad.com/great-leveller-it-rise-fall-ai-era/](https://promptedgrad.com/great-leveller-it-rise-fall-ai-era/)

## Key Points

1

India's IT boom created millions of jobs and a generation of prosperity — then automation started eliminating the same entry-level roles that created it.

2

The pattern repeats: every sector that becomes synonymous with guaranteed employment eventually faces disruption. IT is not unique.

3

The mistake IT professionals made: building careers around tool-specific skills (specific programming languages, specific platforms) rather than transferable problem-solving.

4

The AI era lesson: build skills that are hard to automate — system design, client advisory, domain expertise, and cross-functional judgment.

5

The graduates who will thrive: those who treat AI as a productivity multiplier within a deep domain, not those who chase AI as a standalone career.

6

India has a structural advantage: 63 million SMEs that have not yet adopted AI. Graduates who can bridge AI capability and business understanding have a decade of opportunity.

### Key Takeaway

*The leveller is always the same: not the technology, but the willingness to adapt faster than the technology changes.*

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