Prof. C.V. Jawahar

Distinguished Fellow of the IIT Alumni Council's **AI** Forum — Profile and Achievements

Prof. C.V. Jawahar stands among India's most eminent academic leaders and pioneering researchers in artificial intelligence, computer *vision*, and machine learning. Currently the Dean of Research & Development and Amazon Chair **Professor** at the International Institute of Information Technology (IIT) Hyderabad, Prof. Jawahar's intellectual contributions and mentorship have left an indelible mark on both Indian and global **AI** ecosystems.

Academic Journey and Research Focus

Prof. Jawahar received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Calicut and went on to earn his Master's and PhD from IIT Kharagpur. Since joining IIIT Hyderabad in 2000, he has built and led the Center for Visual Information Technology (CVIT), transforming it into a world-recognized *research* group focusing on image processing, computer *vision*, machine learning, and multimedia systems. His efforts have advanced the boundaries of **AI** applications contextualized to Indian settings—such as optical character recognition (OCR) for Indian scripts, automated document understanding, and *vision*-based solutions for complex societal challenges like traffic and road safety.

Distinguished Fellow and IIT Alumni Council's **AI** Forum

Recognized as a **Distinguished Fellow** of the IIT Alumni Council's **AI** Forum, Prof. Jawahar epitomizes scholarly excellence and dedication to the **AI** field. His election to various fellowships—including the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR) and Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE)—reflects global recognition of his *research leadership*, *innovation*, and impact. Through these forums, he advances large-scale **AI** collaboration, fosters industry-academic partnerships, and elevates the reach and ambition of Indian **AI** *research*.

Pioneering Successes and Notable Contributions

Landmark Research: Prof. Jawahar's work has directly influenced core **AI** fields, notably visual recognition, scene text analysis, document image processing, and structured prediction. He has over 50 publications in tier-one conferences, and his *research* on Indian Driving Dataset (IDD) and Ego4D has facilitated global advancements in traffic safety, document intelligence, and egocentric video understanding.

Major Funding and Awards: As recipient of the ACM India Outstanding Contribution to Computing Education Award 2021 and the Amazon Research Award for advanced work on multilingual document recognition, he has been repeatedly honored for both his *research* and educational impact.

Mentorship and Community Building: Prof. Jawahar's guidance has shaped hundreds of researchers and practitioners. Many of his PhD and MSc students are among the leaders in **AI** and technology worldwide, contributing to industry and academia at the highest levels. He has also served on editorial boards of leading journals and frequently chairs top global conferences (CVPR, ICCV, AAAI, ACCV, ICVGIP).

Societal Impact: Committed to democratizing **AI** for social good, he spearheaded data-driven projects such as the Indian Driving Dataset and helped organize large-scale summer schools, workshops, and outreach programs that have inspired thousands of young technologists. His collaboration with global firms like Facebook **AI** (Ego4D) ensures Indian complexities and datasets are part of the world's **AI**

discourse.

Innovation Leadership: Under his stewardship, IIIT Hyderabad has become a springboard for **AI** start-ups and translational *research*—e.g., developing lip-reading technology for the hearing impaired.

Reputation and Vision

Universally acclaimed for his analytical rigor, passionate mentorship, and visionary approach, Prof. Jawahar continues to shape the dialogue around scalable, ethical, and impactful **AI** in India. As a **Distinguished Fellow** of the IIT Alumni Council's **AI** Forum, he advocates for stronger bridges between alumni, industry, and *research* institutions, empowering the next wave of *innovation*.

Prof. Jawahar's lifelong commitment to **AI**, deep learning, and computer *vision* is reflected in every aspect of his career—ground-breaking publications, institution-building, and relentless pursuit of technology that benefits wider society. His role as a **Distinguished Fellow** amplifies the mission of the **AI** Forum to establish India as a global leader in artificial intelligence.