

Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison and Tech Mahindra unite to Build Garuda, an LLM for Bahasa Indonesia and its dialects

Technology

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Aligned with the vision of Golden Indonesia 2045, partnership focuses on leveraging AI infra and human capital readiness to drive digital transformation, innovation, and promote linguistic diversity, all contributing to Indonesia's socio-economic development

Pune, February 29, 2024: Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison (Indosat or IOH), the most preferred digital telecommunications company in Indonesia, and [Tech Mahindra](#), a leading provider of digital transformation, consulting, and business re-engineering solutions and services, today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2024 to build 'Garuda,' a Large Language Model (LLM) to preserve Bahasa Indonesia, the official and national language of Indonesia and its dialects. Garuda will be built on the principles of Tech Mahindra's indigenous LLM '[Project Indus](#)', a foundational model designed to converse in a multitude of Indic languages and dialects.

The unique features of Garuda will create multiple use cases and enable Indosat's customers to leverage various applications, including customer support, experience, and content creation across industries such as healthcare, e-commerce, rural education, banking and finance, agriculture,

and telecom. The model will offer personalised customer experiences by analysing sentiment and understanding behavioural patterns, resulting in flexible learning based on customers' previous interactions. As part of this partnership, Tech Mahindra will leverage its technology expertise to gather and curate data in the Indonesian language, which will be pre-trained and released as a conversational model for Indosat.

Vikram Sinha, President Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison, said, “We are excited to collaborate with Tech Mahindra on the 'Garuda' project, which aligns perfectly with Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison's larger purpose of connecting and empowering every Indonesian. By preserving Bahasa Indonesia and its dialects through advanced technology, we promote linguistic diversity and enhance accessibility and inclusivity in the digital realm. This partnership underscores our commitment to Indonesia's digital transformation and our vision of Golden Indonesia 2045. Together, we are leveraging AI infrastructure and human capital readiness to drive innovation, create meaningful experiences, and unlock new opportunities for socio-economic growth nationwide.”

Garuda will be developed with 16 Billion original Bahasa tokens, providing 1.2 Billion parameters to shape the model's understanding of the Bahasa language. These parameters will influence how the model processes input and formulates output. A beta version of the Garuda model will be released for testing by Indosat and Bahasa Indonesia speakers. The model will be further improved using RLHF (Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback) techniques to ensure its robustness for conversation.

Additionally, any specialised use cases will be developed using the LIMA (Less is More for Alignment) method.

Harshvendra Soin, President - Asia Pacific and Japan Business, Tech Mahindra, said, “The LLM market is expected to reach 40.8 billion USD by

2029. In this direction, the emergence of LLMs such as Garuda and Indus can enable people and enterprises to communicate online in their local dialects and languages, creating new opportunities in the digital world. We are delighted to partner with Indosat on the Garuda project, which will bring about a transformative impact by providing personalised experiences for the people of Indonesia. We believe that the model will significantly promote Indonesia's linguistic diversity and unlock new business opportunities for enterprises in the region.”

This partnership represents a strategic alliance between Indosat and Tech Mahindra, aligning their strengths to drive technological innovation in Indonesia. The joint endeavour signifies a shared vision to revolutionise language understanding technology, contributing to the preservation of linguistic diversity and advancing communication solutions tailored to the unique needs of the Indonesian market.

About Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison

Indosat Ooredoo Hutchison (Indosat, IDX: ISAT) has the vision to become the most preferred digital telecommunications company in Indonesia. Together with its subsidiaries and affiliates, Indosat provides cellular services, ICT solutions, data centers, Fiber to the Home (FTTH), electronic payment services, financial services, and other digital services. Indosat has a larger purpose of empowering Indonesia, and with the spirit of Gotong Royong, Indosat wants to be the main collaborator in realising it and creating meaningful change.

About Tech Mahindra

Tech Mahindra offers innovative and customer-centric digital experiences, enabling enterprises, associates, and society to Rise for a more equal world, future readiness, and value creation. It is a USD 6.5+ billion

organisation with 146000+ professionals across 90 countries helping 1250+ global customers, including Fortune 500 companies. It is focused on leveraging next-generation technologies including 5G, Metaverse, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, and more, to enable end-to-end digital transformation for global customers. It is the first Indian company in the world to have been awarded the Sustainable Markets Initiative's Terra Carta Seal, which recognises global companies that are actively leading the charge to create a climate and nature-positive future. It is the fastest growing brand globally in 'brand value rank' and among the top 7 IT brands globally in brand strength with AA+ rating. With its NXT.NOWTM framework, Tech Mahindra aims to enhance 'Human Centric Experience' for its ecosystem and drive collaborative disruption with synergies arising from a robust portfolio of companies. It aims at delivering tomorrow's experiences today and believes that the 'Future is Now'.

Tech Mahindra is part of the Mahindra Group, founded in 1945, one of the largest and most admired multinational federation of companies with 260000 employees in over 100 countries. It enjoys a leadership position in farm equipment, utility vehicles, information technology, and financial services in India and is the world's largest tractor company by volume. It has a strong presence in renewable energy, agriculture, logistics, hospitality, and real estate. The Mahindra Group has a clear focus on leading ESG globally, enabling rural prosperity and enhancing urban living, with a goal to drive positive change in the lives of communities and stakeholders to enable them to Rise.

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