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# Reliance and Meta to Build a 168 MW AI Data Centre in Jamnagar

10 June 2026 · **SCIENCE & TECH** · **ECONOMY** · **GS3**

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# Reliance and Meta to Build a 168 MW AI Data Centre in Jamnagar

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## WHY IN NEWS

**Reliance Industries** announced on **June 10, 2026** that it will build a **168 MW AI-enabled data centre in Jamnagar, Gujarat**, with **Meta** leasing the capacity. This is Meta's **first built-to-suit data-centre capacity in India**. The facility is planned to run on **renewable energy** and use **desalinated seawater for cooling**, with Meta covering the full energy and water cost. It signals India's growing role as a hub for artificial-intelligence infrastructure.

## THE PROJECT AT A GLANCE

ASPECT	DETAIL
Builder	Reliance Industries
Capacity	168 MW (AI-enabled)
Location	Jamnagar, Gujarat
Lessee	Meta (its first built-to-suit data-centre capacity in India)
Power	Renewable energy
Cooling	Desalinated seawater
Cost	Meta to cover full energy and water cost
Timeline	Delivery within about two years

The deal builds on the existing Reliance-Meta relationship, which began with Meta's 2020 investment in Jio Platforms and extended to a 2025 joint venture for enterprise AI products using open-source **Llama** models.

## WHY DATA CENTRES MATTER FOR AI

A **data centre** houses the servers, storage and networking that power digital services. **AI data centres** are specialised, using high-density computing (GPUs) that consume large amounts of **electricity** and require intensive **cooling**, often a major water user.

The choice to power this facility with renewables and cool it with desalinated seawater addresses the two biggest sustainability concerns of AI infrastructure: its **carbon footprint** and its **water footprint**. This is a “green data centre” model.

## INDIA'S AI INFRASTRUCTURE PUSH

The project fits a wider national effort to build domestic AI capacity.

ELEMENT	DETAIL
<b>IndiaAI Mission</b>	Approved in 2024 with an outlay of about Rs 10,371 crore to build AI compute, datasets and skilling
<b>Data localisation</b>	The Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 frames data handling
<b>Compute capacity</b>	India is expanding GPU-based compute, key to training large AI models

Hosting global Big Tech compute capacity in India brings investment and jobs, but it also raises questions about **digital sovereignty** and dependence on foreign platforms.

## UPSC RELEVANCE

### Prelims

- **168 MW** AI data centre in **Jamnagar, Gujarat**; built by **Reliance**, leased by **Meta**
- Meta's **first built-to-suit** data-centre capacity in India
- Powered by **renewable energy**, cooled by **desalinated seawater**
- India's national AI programme: the **IndiaAI Mission** (approved 2024, about Rs 10,371 crore)
- Data handling framed by the **DPDP Act, 2023**

### Mains Angles

- 1 **GS3 Digital Economy:** Examine India's emergence as a hub for AI data-centre infrastructure and its economic opportunities and risks.

- 2 **GS3 Sustainability:** Discuss the energy and water footprint of AI data centres and the case for green data centres.
- 3 **GS3 Digital Sovereignty:** Analyse the tension between attracting Big Tech compute and preserving digital sovereignty.

## FACTS CORNER

FACT	DETAIL
Capacity	168 MW
Location	Jamnagar, Gujarat
Builder / Lessee	Reliance / Meta
Power	Renewable energy
Cooling	Desalinated seawater
Significance	Meta's first built-to-suit capacity in India
National mission	IndiaAI Mission (2024, ~Rs 10,371 crore)
AI models reference	Meta's open-source Llama

Sources: *Business Today, MeitY, LiveMint*

Source: Reliance and Meta to Build a 168 MW AI Data Centre in Jamnagar — Ujyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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