



Automation Is Rising — But Who Is Ready for the Change?

Automation and artificial intelligence are the two most powerful technologies in 2026 that rapidly transform the industries and the way work is performed in them. It is considered an establishment in tech, but it also leads to several challenges. As Intelligent systems take over daily human tasks, the question arises whether, with the rise of automation, humans are ready to adopt this or are falling behind.

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Introduction

In 2026, a major transformation is noticed in industries due to the technology of automation. Now, automation is not just a basic rising technology that can easily vanish, but it is shaping the way the world operates. Now it is not just in manufacturing units but also takes over the industrial and corporate sectors by doing tasks that were once done by humans. This change not just helps to increase efficiency, productivity and reliability but also transforms the structure of employment and industrial work.

As the world evolves and transforms through digital work, Pakistan also feels pressure to come in this race and adopt automation and AI in its industries to increase productivity and economic stability, but a major change is noticed in employment because of the uncertainty in rapidly changing technology

"Automation makes work easier, but adapting to it is the real challenge."

Technology Overview

Automation basically refers to the use of machines, software (like built-in programs or processes) and intelligent systems to perform and automate tasks with minimal human involvement.

Automation includes automated software systems in customer service, artificial intelligence in data processing and robotics in manufacturing. Through these technologies, human errors are reduced, and systems become more efficient and reliable.

If we notice, we can see that automation is now involved in our life activities, like in supermarkets, instead of cashiers, we see automated checkout machines. In banks, the transactions and customer support are handled through automated systems. In manufacturing, robotics do work more efficiently and quickly than humans. And even in agriculture, automation is involved in tasks like irrigation and crop monitoring systems.

In this time, the industries and organizations that adapt their work processes to this technology "survive", and those who don't take this opportunity may fall behind the race.



Figure 1: Human workers and machines collaborating in an evolving automated environment. Credit: AI Generated.

Key Findings & Impact

The rise of automation is like a blessing in disguise. It has both positive and negative impacts. On the positive side, automation is useful to increase productivity, efficiency and work quality. It reduces the operational cost, allowing humans to only work on creative tasks and leave the other on AI. It helps to boost business processes with limited time and accuracy.

On the negative side, it has led to a major decline in jobs and employment because many tasks are automated and no longer require manual work. Also, if the automated system fails, it's hard to achieve stability again because humans can't deal with a complicated automated system because of lack of skills.

Another issue is the failure to adopt these smart technologies. Now, the businesses are in search of individuals who can operate AI and automation in their tasks, and those who don't adapt to this technological change may fall behind and eventually become unemployed.

Many employees use AI to speed up their routine tasks, but some employees completely rely on AI to do their work, which is wrong because if any error occur then they are unable to resolve it because they don't have that skill.

What's Next?

The future of automation mainly depends on how well society adapts to it. Instead of panicking and not facing the situation, individuals should try to prepare for it. They should use this technological change in their work and learn to operate and manage these systems so they can survive in this industry.



Also, the government should integrate this change into its skill learning programs so that youth don't face any difficulty in adapting to it.

Automation also creates employment options as new emerging jobs like AI automation engineers, AI agent engineers and many more.

In conclusion, automation is beneficial only to those who keep learning and adapting to new technology. If managed wisely, it's a way towards innovation, growth and a better future in the tech industry.

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