

## **Digital India and E-Governance in Development of Economy**

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**Abstract:** The Digital India drive is a dream project of the Indian Government to remodel India into a knowledgeable economy and digitally empowered society, with good governance for citizens by bringing synchronization and co-ordination in public accountability, digitally connecting and delivering the government programs and services to mobilize the capability of information technology across government departments. The motive behind the concept is to build participative, transparent and responsive system.

This paper focuses on several aspects of the role of information technology in the evolution of India's economy and an attempt has been made to understand the role of Digital India and E-Governance in development of economy, where technologies and connectivity will come together for country's development.

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### **Introduction**

The digital world that we live in today is that where people have the bright prospect to transform their lives in many ways that were hard to envision just a couple of years ago. It is the outcome of several innovations and technology advances. Today, every nation wants to be fully digitalized that will empower society in a better manner. The 'Digital India' programme, an initiative of honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, will emerge new progressions in every sector and generates innovative endeavours. The motive behind the concept is to build participative, transparent and responsive system. All educational institutions and government services will soon be able to provide I-ways round the clock. Digital India will provide all services electronically and promote digital literacy. Digital Technologies which includes the concept of cloud computing and mobile applications have emerged as the catalysts for express economic growth and citizen empowerment.

### **Digital India and E- Governance**

The programme contains tasks that target to make sure that govt. services are available to people digitally and people get advantage of the newest information and connection technological innovation. Digital libraries, online magazines, e-books can be made available for free which will further help in knowledge sharing. PM Modi rightly said in his speech in San Jose, "I see technology as a means to empower and as a tool that bridges the distance between hope and opportunity. Social media is reducing social barriers. It connects people on the strength of human values, not identities." The Digital India initiative seeks to lay emphasis on e-governance and transform India into a digitally empowered society. It is to ensure that government services are available to citizens electronically. Digital India also aims to transform ease of doing business in the country. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (deitY) anticipates that this program will have a huge impact on the Ministry of Communication and IT. Modi's government is focussing on providing broadband services in all villages of the country, tele-medicine and mobile healthcare services and making the governance more participative.

It is an initiative of government of India to ensure government services are made available to people online by increasing internet connectivity the vision of Digital India programme also aims at inclusive growth in areas of electronic Services, products, manufacturing and job opportunities etc. It aims to provide broadband highways, universal access to mobile connectivity, public internet access programme, e-governance: Reforming government through technology, e-Kranti - Electronic delivery of services, Information for all, Electronics manufacturing: Target net zero imports, IT for jobs and early harvest programmes including Digital Locker, e-education, e-health, e-sign and it also aims to bring in public accountability through mandated delivery of government's services electronically; a Unique ID and e-Pramaan based on authentic and standard based interoperable and integrated government applications and data basis.

E- Governance can be defined as, use of ICT in government in ways that either alters governance structures or processes in ways that are not feasible without ICT and/or create new It's a form of e-business

ingovernance which encompasses the processes and structures tangled in delivery of electronic services to the public. Further, defines that, e-governance is the modernization of processes and functions of the government by inculcating ICT tools whereas citizens are treated as passive recipients of digital information and services. Nevertheless e-governance is a decisional process which involves ICT in governance with the objective of wider participation and deeper involvement of citizens, institution, NGOs and other companies. It has been also visualized that “A transparent smart e-Governance with seamless access, secure and authentic flow of information crossing the interdepartmental barrier and providing a fair and unbiased service to the citizen.”

### **Major Initiatives under Digital India Programme**

1. To deliver citizen services electronically and improve the way citizens and authorities transact with each other, it is imperative to have ubiquitous connectivity. The government also realises this need as reflected ‘broadband highways’ as one of the pillars of Digital India. While connectivity is one criterion, enabling and providing technologies to facilitate delivery of services to citizens forms the other.
2. The government is taking steps to ensure that by 2018 all villages are covered through mobile connectivity.
3. The government is focusing on zero imports of electronics. In order to achieve this, the government aims to put up smart energy meters, micro ATMs, mobile, consumer and medical electronics.
4. The government aims to provide internet services all post offices in the next two years. These post offices will become Multi- Service centres for the people.
5. The government aims to improve processes and delivery of services through e-Governance with UIDAI, payment gateway, EDI and mobile platforms. School certificates, voter ID cards will be provided online. This aims for a faster examination of data.
6. E-Kranti: This service aims to deliver electronic services to people which deals with health, education, farmers, justice, security and financial inclusion.
7. Global Information: Hosting data online and engaging social media platforms for governance is the aim of the government. Information is also easily available for the citizens.
8. MyGov.in is a website launched by the government for a 2-way communication between citizens and the government. People can send in their suggestions and comment on various issues raised by the government, like net neutrality.
9. Under early harvest programs, Government plans to set up Wi-Fi facilities in all universities across the country. Email will be made the primary mode of communication. Aadhar Enabled Biometric Attendance System will be deployed in all central government offices where recording of attendance will be made online.
10. Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Mobile app would be used by people and Government organizations for achieving the goals of Swachh Bharat Mission.
11. The Online Registration System (ORS) under the eHospital application has been introduced. This application provides important services such as online registration, payment of fees and appointment, online diagnostic reports, enquiring availability of blood online etc.
12. National Scholarships Portal is a one stop solution for end to end scholarship process right from submission of student application, verification, sanction and disbursement to end beneficiary for all the scholarships provided by the Government of India.
13. DeitY has undertaken an initiative namely Digitize India Platform (DIP) for large scale digitization of records in the country that would facilitate efficient delivery of services to the citizens.
14. BSNL has introduced Next Generation Network (NGN), to replace 30 year old exchanges, which is an IP based technology to manage all types of services like voice, data, multimedia/ video and other types of packet switched communication services.
15. BSNL has undertaken large scale deployment of Wi-Fi hotspots throughout the country. The user can latch on the BSNL Wi-Fi network through their mobile devices.
16. Digital Lockers will help citizens to store their important documents like PAN Card, Passport, Mark sheet, Degree & Certificates Digitally. Secure Access to Authenticity through AADHAR.
17. E-Sign will help electronically signed the documents & National scholarship Portal help the students and reduced corruption, Quick Working, reducing paper work and increased efficiency of business more business opportunities in this sector.

### **Advantages of Digital India**

It will give many opportunities to use latest technology by providing access to education, health, financial services etc. it will help in improving the social and economic condition of people living in rural areas. It also generates employment, GDP Growth, increased labour productivity and entrepreneur opportunities. It

will generate 17 Million jobs directly and 85million jobs indirectly. Some sectors like education, healthcare, banking and many more sectors unable to reach out to rural areas .there are so many obstructions like information, awareness, poverty, illiteracy and ignorance.

India is huge market for internet and mobile connectivity. 3rd largest market in internet users and 2nd place in wireless subscribers still there are a big scope in Indian digital market Digital India projects will provide real time education like : Smart and virtual classroom will help to take challenges where there is lack of teacher's .Education to Farmers, fisherman can be provided with the help of projects.M-health can promote innovation & increase the reach of healthcare services.On line medical access with many more features help in fighting from poor doctor ratio.

Agriculture sector in India contributes 16% in India GDP while almost 51% in employment .it help our Farmers to know-How in various agriculture activities like crop choice,seed variety weather, plant Protection and market rate information. Many service industries like banking, Insurance, Hospitality, Aviation, Railways need it as boosters because these service business will get maximum benefit from these projects.

### **Challenges for Digital India program Initiatives and E-Governance**

The Digital India Initiative is an ambitious project of the government There is so many challenges for the completion of the project like;

**Lack of coordination among departments:** It is very large project which including many departments so a strong and timely support is most important for the timely completion of the projects.

**High cost of Implementation:** A very high amount is required to implement the all project of DI plan

**Infrastructure:** National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) Project is planning to build a high speed broadband highway but still we need other supportive Infrastructure such as robust and large data centre for managing a large data of entire country.

**Participation of Private participants:** So many regularities checks and long and delayed projects breaking entering private players in Digital India Projects .Private companies will play a crucial role in its success.

### **E- Governance**

The government is expanding an enormous amount on cultivating the culture of e-governance through National e-Government Portal but despite of that results are not overwhelming. Although there are islands of success in the area of e-governance but still there are certain areas which are unexplored or inadequately explored.

### **Proposed Impact of Digital India**

According to *economic* analyst, the Digital India plan could boost GDP up to \$1 trillion by 2025. It can play a key role in macro-economic factors such as GDP growth, employment generation, labour productivity, growth in number of businesses and revenue leakages for the Government.As per the World Bank report, a 10% increase in mobile and broadband penetration increases the per capita GDP by 0.81% and 1.38% respectively in the developing countries. India is the 2nd largest telecom market in the world with 915 million wireless subscribers and world's 3rd largest Internet market with almost 259 million broadband users. There is still a huge economic opportunity in India as the tele-density in rural India is only 45% where more than 65% of the population lives. Future growth of telecommunication industry in terms of number of subscribers is expected to come from rural areas as urban areas are saturated with a tele-density of more than 160%.

**Social** sectors such as education, healthcare, and banking are unable to reach out to the citizens due to obstructions and limitations such as middleman, illiteracy, ignorance, poverty, lack of funds, information and investments. These challenges have led to an imbalanced growth in the rural and urban areas with marked differences in the economic and social status of the people in these areas.Modern ICT makes it easier for people to obtain access to services and resources. The penetration of mobile devices may be highly useful as a complementary channel to public service delivery apart from creation of entirely new services which may have an enormous impact on the quality of life of the users and lead to social modernization.The poor literacy rate in India is due to unavailability of physical infrastructure in rural and remote areas. This is where m-Education services can play an important role by reaching remote masses.. The digital India project will be helpful in providing real-time education and partly address the challenge of lack of teachers in education system through smart and virtual classrooms. Education to farmers, fisher men can be provided through mobile devices. The high speed network can provide the adequate infrastructure for online education platforms like massive open

online courses (MOOCs). Mobile and internet banking can improve the financial inclusion in the country and can create win-win situation for all parties in the value-chain by creating an interoperable ecosystem and revenue sharing business models. Telecom operators get additional revenue streams while the banks can reach new customer groups incurring lowest possible costs. Factors such as a burgeoning population, poor doctor patient ratio, high infant mortality rate, increasing life expectancy, fewer quality physicians and a majority of the population living in remote villages, support and justify the need for tele medicine in the country. M-health can promote innovation and enhance the reach of healthcare services. Digital platforms can help farmers in know-how (crop choice, seed variety), context (weather, plant protection, cultivation best practices) and market information (market prices, market demand, logistics).

The major changes in the technology space will not only brought changes to the economic system but will also contribute to the *environmental* changes. The next generation technologies will help in lowering the carbon footprint by reducing fuel consumption, wastemanagement, greener workplaces and thus leading to a greener ecosystem. The ICT sector helps in efficient management and usage of scarce and non-renewable resources. Cloud computing technology minimizes carbon emissions by improving mobility and flexibility.

### **Conclusion**

A digitally connected India can help in improving social and economic condition of people through development of non-agricultural economic activities apart from providing access to education, health and financial services. However, it is important to note that ICT alone cannot directly lead to overall development of the nation. The overall growth and development can be realized through supporting and enhancing elements such as literacy, basic infrastructure, overall business environment, regulatory environment, etc. Digital India is ambitious programme of Government of India. it was started to transform India into digital world ,empowered society and knowledge economy .Government services will provided to citizen with the E-services (For policies implementation) and E-governance (For Government Department )as it will take speed in implementation as a economy will emerge with more transparency ,speedy implementation of government policies ,reducing corruption , more productivity ,less paper work ,more employment more informative way. Services like E-Kranti, My Gov.com many more portal services creates a knowledge economy. Information is a backbone of speedy decision which helps in growth of economy. Millions of jobs, mobile connectivity, internet highway, on line information and many other things can create a new India.

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