

DIGITALIZATION OF INDIA SOCIETY: NEED OF HOUR

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Abstract

Digital delineate to electronic technology that generates, stores and processes data, so that it is stored in a virtual central repository and is easy to access anytime, anywhere, through established protocols which creates a transparent environment. Digital Technologies which include Cloud Computing and Mobile Applications transpire as catalysts for shaping our world. 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 coordination in public accountability, digitally connecting and delivering the government programs and services to mobilize the capability of information technology across government departments. Digital India imagines, universal digital literacy and approachability for all digital resources for citizens by ensuring that the resources and services are accessible in regional languages and providing digital scaffold to participatory governance ensuring convenience, like making all government certificates and documents available on the Cloud with portability. The purpose of this researches to find out how the government services can work for reducing paperwork with upcoming practical solutions and innovative ideas to accomplish the vision of a digital India- a reality.



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INTRODUCTION

Today, the world has transformed from a knowledge savvy to techno knowledge savvy. Think of something and it is available in one click. So, Digital India is a step by the government to inspire and connect Indian Economy to such a knowledge savvy world. The program targets to make Government services available to people digitally and enjoy the benefit of the newest information and technological innovations. It brings out various schemes like E-Health Digital Locker, E-Sign, E-Education etc. and nationwide scholarship portal. Digital India is a great plan but its improper implementation due to inaccessibility & inflexibility to requisite can lead to its failure. The program strives to provide equal benefit to the user and service provider. The consumers will be benefited by way of saving time, money, physical & cognitive energy spent in lengthy government processes. For e.g. digital ticketing will lead to reduction in queue at ticket counter with online resources for booking, online tax-return filing etc. The aim of Digital India to give a Unique ID and e-Pramaan

based on authentic and standard based interoperable and integrated government applications and data basis. This program will also lead to paperless work and reduction in cost to the government expenses. Government services will be available to every citizen electronically

SCOPE OF DIGITAL INDIA

The scope of overall programme is:

- To develop India for a knowledgeable future by Developing central technology for allowing revolution which covers many departments under one umbrella programme.
- On being transformative, that is to realize IT (Indian Talent) + IT (Information Technology) = IT (India Tomorrow). The programme weaves together a large number of thoughts and ideas into a single, extensive vision, and making the mission transformative in totality
- The Digital India Programme will pull together many existing schemes which would be re-focused restructured and implemented in a synchronized manner for their transformative impact.
- Digital India targets to provide the much needed sense to the following nine pillars of growth areas.

Vision of Digital India initiative

The three visions are shown in the diagram given below: Here is what the government of India aims to achieve through Digital India initiative. Infrastructure: The Digital India initiative has a vision to provide high speed internet services to its citizens in all Gram Panchayats . Bank accounts will be given priority at individual level. People will be provided with safe and secure cyber space in the country. Governance and services: Government services will be available online where citizens will be ensured easy access to it. Transactions will be made easy through electronic medium.

Nine Pillars of Digital India

The idea of Digital India is to bring abroad commitments to invest towards this initiative so that the investments would be utilized towards making internet devices and smart phones at an affordable price in India which would help in generating jobs, reduction in the time and cost of importing them from abroad. Digital India comprises of various initiatives under the single programme each targeted to prepare India as a knowledge economy and for bringing good governance to citizens through synchronized and coordinated engagement of the entire

Government. Nine projects have been undertaken which are shown in the diagram given below:

Highways to have broadband services: The first step is to provide high speed broadband highways through fiber optics that connect all the remote areas, government departments, universities, research and development etc. Web based portals and Mobile apps will be developed to access online information while on the move.

Easy access to mobile connectivity: The government is taking steps to ensure that by 2018 all villages are covered through mobile connectivity. The aim is to increase network penetration and cover gaps in all 44,000 villages. General public will access the online government services with the help of handheld devices. Nation is ready to be well-connected, efficient, and more productive in every aspect.

IT Training for Jobs: The government is preparing to provide training and teaching skills to the youth for employment opportunities in the IT sector. BPO industries will be established for the fastest growing segment of the Information Technology Enabled Services industry. It offers eservices 24/7 in every field and gives more jobs potentials. This initiative seeks to train 10 million people in towns and villages for IT sector jobs in five years. It also aims to train 0.3 million agents to run viable businesses delivering IT services.

Manufacturing of electronics: This milestone will create a huge base for electronics manufacturing in India with the aid of digital technologies and skills. Target NET ZERO Imports is a striking demonstration of intent. This ambitious goal requires coordinated action on many fronts.

Provide public access to internet: Virtuous technologies that support cost containment, collaboration, security, and services-on-the-go, social-connect, and in-built intelligence that deliver remote access to any information or service available across the domain. This change will open new doors of e-services to every citizen. The government aims to provide internet services to 2.5 lakh villages which comprises of one in every Panchayat by March 2017 and 1.5 lakh post offices in the next two years. These post offices will become Multi Service centers for the people.

E-Governance: This governance will transform every manual work into fully automation system. It will revolutionize the system in the following ways:

- Online access to applications i.e. availability of all databases and information in electronic format.

- Effortlessly tracking of assignments.
- Interface between departments for superior production of work.
- Quickly respond, analyze and resolve persistent problems and many more.

E-Kranti: This Kranti will fully focus on digital knowledge program where education, health, farming, rights, financial and many more services will be delivered on a very high bandwidth. Physical boundaries no longer are a limitation when almost everyone and everything is a digital handshake away.

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. 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.

Early harvest programs: This programme will generate short timeline projects where every manual service is altered by e-service. E-services like:

- Implementation of Wi-Fi in all the universities.
- Public Wi-Fi Sports to access online information.
- Educational books to e-books.
- People will use the e-services for entertainment, weather information, latest updates etc.
- Replacement of manual attendance to Biometric procedure

Initiatives under Digital India

Some of the facilities provided under the initiative of Digital India are as follows:

Digi Locker Digital Locker facility helps citizens to digitally store their significant documents like PAN card, passport, mark sheets and degree certificates. Digital Locker offers secured access to Government issued documents. It uses authenticity services provided by Aadhaar. It is targeted at eliminating the use of physical documents and enables sharing of verified electronic documents across government agencies. Three key stakeholders of Digi Locker are Citizen, Issuer and requester.

Attendance.gov.in Attendance .gov .in is a website, launched by PM Narendra Modi to keep a record of the attendance of Government employees on a real-time basis. This initiative started with implementation of a common Biometric Attendance System (BAS) in the central government offices located in Delhi.

MyGov.in MyGov.in is a platform to share inputs and ideas on matters of policy and governance. It is a platform for citizen engagement in governance, through a "Discuss", "Do" and "Disseminate" approach. SBM

Mobile app Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Mobile app is being used by people and Government organisations for achieving the goals of Swachh Bharat Mission.

E-Hospital The e-Hospital application provides important services such as online registration, payment of fees and appointment, online diagnostic reports, enquiring availability of blood online etc.

National Scholarship Portal National Scholarship Portal is a one step 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

E-Sign framework-Sign framework allows citizens to digitally sign a document online using Aadhaar authentication

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.

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