DIGITAL INDIA: LIMITATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

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ABSTRACT

It is fact that The Digital India is result of many recent development, technologies and innovation. These change the lives of people and empower the society as well. The programme 'Digital India' proposed by honorable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. The main intension behind the programme is to construct well responsive and transparent system. It is Indian government Dream project to make country more digitized and knowledgeable economy. To stand equally with other nation India must be digitalize first. Every innovation has two effects one is beneficial and another is harmful, it is nature's fact that every advantage has its disadvantage, same the Digital India project also has little limitations, till the fulfillment of target. Hence, in this paper an effort has been made to understand Digital India: its limitations and opportunities. Digital India is a act where technologies and connectivity in form of internet and Wi-Fi will combine to improve the quality of life of people and influence all phases of governance. Digital India is the Government of India's initiative to make sure that all Government services are completely available to people electronically by maintaining proper internet facilities such as well internet infrastructure and increased internet connectivity.

Key Words: Digital India, Digital Technology, e-governance, E-Kranti, Internet

INTRODUCTION



Source: http://indianexpress.com/about/digital-india/?gclid=CPTZ_ZjvndICFcIQaAodG-8Hrw

Digital India is a programme to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The today's digital world where we are living is the result of many innovation and technological advancement which helps to improve the civilian's life better and fast in many ways. The tag line of Digital India program "power to empower" is explaining in better way the program. As the Digital India initiative was launch by the Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi on 1 July 2015 - the objective behind the program is to connect rural areas with high-speed Internet networks and improving digital literacy among them. "Economic resources of the country should be utilized for the well-being of the poor. The change will commence from this point." - Said by Shri Narendra Modi. Digital India thought is about growth in electronic sector such as service, products, manufacturing and job opportunities etc .and also concentrate on three key areas that is Digital Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen, Governance & Services on Demand and Digital Empowerment of Citizens. First object behind Digital India programme is to provide all services electronically to citizen and spread digital literacy among people. This initiative is marked change in country and enhances the growth of economy. All over the world many investors and companies are taking interest in Digital India project-21 st century India. Digitalization is beneficial for all the private and government sectors of country. "Economic resources of the country should be utilized for the well-being of the poor. The change will commence from this point." - Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

The digital India initiative brings growth with an image to convert India into a digitally knowledge economy and empowered society which mainly focuses on 'Digital India. The theme can be explain in this way - Indian Talent (IT) + Information Technology IT = India Tomorrow (IT)

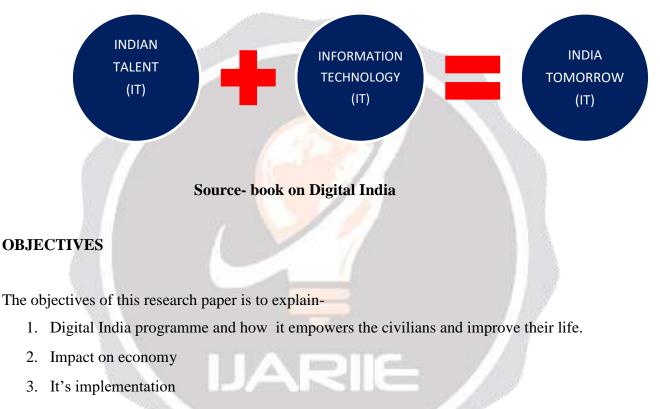


FIGURE- 1: THEME OF DIGITAL INDIA

4. The opportunities and limitation of Digital India programme.

DATA COLLECTION

The secondary data source has been used for this, Book, news papers, research papers, journals and websites has been used. It is conceptual types of paper so more concentration on concept, uses and its effect on life of people as well on economy, thus related quantitative and qualitative data have been used.

OVERVIEW OF DIGITAL INDIA

Now days we are in the midst of a third industrial revolution driven by digitization, previous two were driven by electricity and steam engine. Traditionally, Indian organization felt uncomfortable to adopt technology but current industries across sectors are taking interest in going 'digital'. This trend has been more encouraged by the 'Digital India' programme.

VISION OF THE PROGRAM

The programme mainly concentrate on three key areas which is shown in following figure-



Source:-https://yourstory.com/2015/07/digital-india-narendra-modi/

Digital India program combines various initiatives under the single programme each initiative aim to prepare India for knowledge future. Nine projects have been commenced under Digital India programme, these are explained below-

S.NO.	INITIATIVE	AIM
1	Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity	Ensure mobile connectivity in all parts of the country by 2018. Main objective is to provide each citizen with access to mobile networks and associated services

	Public Internet Access Program	to improve the connectivity within
2	rubic internet recess rigram	the country. Building Common Service
		• •
		Centres (CSCs) in each gram panchayat and
		also converting post offices into multi-service
		centres.
3	Broadband Highways	To provide this basic internet connectivity in
		all areas within the country to all citizens.
4	e-Kranti	The most crucial initiatives of Digital India,
		involving provisioning services like E-
		healthcare, E-justice, E-education, farmers,
		security and financial services.
5	E-Education	Developing Massive Open Online Courses
5		(MOOCs) which is beneficial for education
		and provide citizens access to huge amounts
		of knowledge along with a forum for students
		and teachers to debate, discuss and form
		meaningful conversations, E-Scholarship
		scheme etc
	E-Governance	E-Governance (disposal of government
6	E-Governance	services in electronic form). making
		the best use of growing technology to
		provide services like banking, civil services,
		postal services, etc. to every citizen
7	Information for All	Aimed to curb the problem of making
		documents imperishable, pervasive, and
		immune to theft and loss. At the same time,
		the authenticity of the document can be
		verified
8	Early Harvest Programs	Contains multiple services like the national
-		portal for lost and found children
		(KhoyaPaya), biometric scanners in all

		government offices (for better time
		management), mass messaging app for
		government employees, etc
9	Manufacturing of electronic	This initiative aims at decreasing imports and
	items (make in India)	also plans to provide job opportunities by
		promoting the establishment of electronics
		manufacturing plants within the country. Its
		final objective is to have net zero import of
		electronics by 2020.

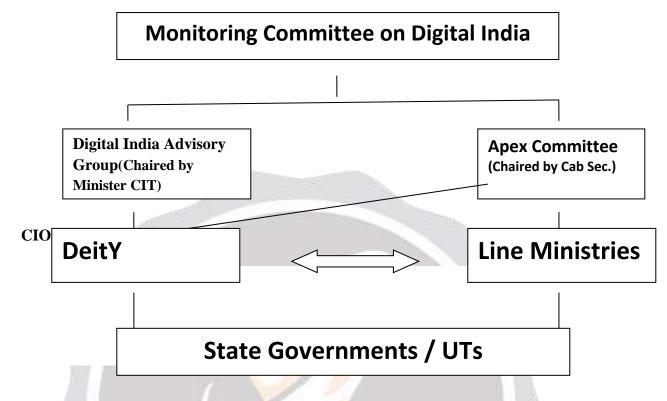
It is clear that all of these initiatives will produce process and store data for providing the services to the citizens. Some of the initiatives are more data intense and will need advanced technology platforms to meet the growing data needs. VLDB (very large data base) clearly are the solution to meet these needs. Few key benefits of VLDB in Digital India programme are as under:-

- National Information Infrastructure (NII) will require a huge database to hold the necessary data, NII will also make use of data warehousing to get necessary data from other databases.
- Store Data under E-Kranti initiative (e-healthcare, e-justice, e-education etc.), Digi Locker service and biometric scanner data.
- Very Large Database (VLDB) to host the content shared/exchanged on various Apps such as Mass
 Messaging App for government employees and representatives.

DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME MONOTORING COMMITTEE

The Digital India programme is monitoring and administrating by the Advisory group of Digital India which is chaired by the Ministry of Communications and IT shown in following figure.

FIGURE-2: Institutional Mechanisms at National Level for Digital India



Overall cost for Digital India Program

After making proper plan we get the following present and future expected expenditure for implementing the Digital India programme-

- ✓ Rs 100,000 Cr in ongoing schemes
- ✓ Rs 13,000 Cr for new schemes & activities

So it is very clear that for complete set up and implementation of 9 initiative, that much of amount is required.

Impact of Digital India Initiative

After announcement of program many organizations came in front to lend their support for achieving India a digitally prepared country. Telecommunication organization like Reliance and BSNL. is coming frontage to spread digitalization among villages and by 2018 over 42000 villages will be having seamless mobile connectivity all over the India.

Mahatma Gandhi believed that India resides in its villages and technology play important role in it's growth and prosperity so now Mr. Narenda Modi also claims that "we have attacked poverty

by using the power of networks and mobile phones to launch a new era of empowerment and inclusion." Simply by increasing mobile connectivity last year, agriculture earning grew at 1.1 per cent.

The action taken by the Indian government in present times have shown very positive or beneficial results that the GDP (gross domestic product) rate of Indian economy of last 2 years from 2011 to 2013 was constant Rs 99.21 trillion (US\$ 1.488 trillion) in compare to 2014-15 is Rs 106.4 trillion (US\$ 1.596 trillion), recorded a growth rate of 7.3 per cent more. This remarkable record shows that the Digital India program adopted by government contribute in economic growth of country. In coming 5 years huge opportunities and employment also available in IT sector of India. By 2019 following impact of the program will be visualize-

- > Broadband facility in 2.5 lakh villages , widespread phone connectivity
- Net Zero Imports of electronics items by 2020
- Public Internet Access Points approx 400,000
- Wi-fi in 2.5 lakh schools and all universities, wi-fi hotspots for citizens
- > 1.7 Cr person trained for IT, Telecom and Electronics Jobs
- Employment: Direct 1.7 Cr. and Indirect at least 8.5 Cr.
- For government department: E-Governance & E-Services
- ▶ India to be leader in IT use in services <u>-health</u>, education, banking etc.
- Digitally empowered citizens –public cloud, internet access

A strong statement given by McKinsey (world's leading firm in research area) that the recent technology and innovative ideas adopted by the Digital India programme will help to boost India's GDP by \$550 billion to \$1 trillion by 2025.

All over the India the initiative taken by various states to participate in Digital India Programme is listed below

S.NO.	NAME OF THE STATE	PROGRAMME
1	Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jharkhand	Internet Saathi yojana (Cover 4,500 villages over the next 18 months)
2	Kerala(IT Park)	ABB India deliver a110 KV digital substation

		to technopark
3	Pune	Mastercard
4	Lakshadweep	100 cashless society
5	Chandigarh	setting up of a 'Digital Haryana Cell' in his office for effective implementation of various e-governance
6	Akodara (Village in Gujarat)	Taken by ICICI Bank under 'Digital village' pilot project. And doing all transaction digitally. No effect of demonetization.
7	Sri City, Andhra Pradesh.	For Redmi new mobile phone assembly plant.
8	Maharashtra	US\$ 5 billion investment from electronics manufacturing giant Foxconn

OPPORTUNITIES OF DIGITAL INDIA

The Digital India initiative will be create approx \$1-trillion business opportunities **related to** communications, IT and IT-enabled services, telecom and manufacturing of electronics. Digital India program brings or opens up a excess of opportunities for technology companies such as broadband infrastructure building; generate identity solutions, system of payment, online delivery system etc. Digital India programme provides **business opportunities** initially in the following sectors:

- Electronic Manufacturing: Providing skill development opportunities for private sector through telecom and electronics. Investment in infrastructure of testing laboratories under the required standard.
- Information and Communication Technology:- Required IT trainer to train people in villages and small town, training for service delivery agent. Jobs for IT experts, software developer and network experts.

- National e-governance department: with its establishment, requirement of senior consultant and IT consultant generated.
- Healthcare: Telemedicine and remote health plan will create huge opportunity for universal accessibility to quality healthcare.
- **Cyber security**: Cyber security is important area of focus where abundant opportunities are available. It is necessary that all type and size of organizations should invest significantly in securing their products and services.
- **Telecom** :- Provide training to Rural workforce on telecom and telecom related services(TSP's)
- Infrastructure: To establish broadband and integrate the network and cloud infrastructure for better connectivity creates many opportunity for networking experts and related organizations.
- Agriculture: Agriculture sector in India contributes 16% in India GDP while almost 51% in employment. It will help our farmers to know-how in various agriculture activities like crop choice, seed variety weather, plant protection and market rate information. The opportunity will increase if government makes a framework for private sector to compete and offer best services to farmer. Set up of virtual market, crop insurance, soil health card scheme etc.
- Economy : Digital economy has great power to change the lives of millions of Indian people. It is a tool which could provide the opportunity for country to expand its role and
- **Marketing** :- Numerous opportunities related to the marketing such as Digital process of advertisement, e –business, online shopping etc.
- **Finance**:- Finding new way from online banking to digital wallet, crowd funding, low cost commercial transaction

CHALLENGES FOR DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAM

The Digital India program is a very large scale project of the Indian government. Thus, Indian government facing many challenges for completes the project. The major challenges are as follows:

(1) Less co-ordination among various departments: As we know it is very large project that consist of many departments. So, timely and strong support of departments is very important for properly and timely completion of the projects.

(2) **Implementation Cost is very high:** As shown above still very high amount is required to implement the Digital India plan.

(3) **Infrastructure:** Robust and large data centre (used to store large data of entire country) are other supportive infrastructure require for National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) project. It is planned to build for high speed broadband highway.

(4) **Excess time**: - Project like NOFN has been delayed several times and taken almost 2 year so, it has also delayed other related projects. The project will be successful when it completed on time.

(5) **Contribution of Private Players:** - Many regulations as well as very long and delayed projects are inhibiting the entry of private organization in Digital India programme. Private organization will play a necessary role in its success.

CONCLUSION

The Digital India initiative is the beginning of a digital revolution, once properly implemented; it will create numerous new opportunities for the citizens. However, the Digital India program success will associate with the regulatory framework. The Government completely ensures that these regulations create such an environment in which private organizations come in, work together and create efficient ecosystems. The Government role should be line with administration that is Maximum role of Governance and Minimum role of Government, With these efforts India will be digitally ready within three years.

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