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## ACHIEVERS COLLEGE OF COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT, KALYAN (W) – 421 301

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**One Day**

**Interdisciplinary International Conference**

**On**

## IMPACT OF SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEMES IN INDIA

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**A STUDY ON IMPACT OF DIGITAL INDIA SCHEME WITH REFERENCE TO INDIAN SOCIETY****Mr. Ranjeet Divakant Thakur, Assistant Professor**

NCRD's Sterling College of Arts, Commerce &amp; Science, Nerul

**Abstract :**

Digitalization which is the need of today's world is the result of innovations and technological advances. Every country is aiming to achieve digitalization to empower society in a better way. The 'Digital India' programme, an initiative of honourable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi, will emerge new progressions in every sector and generates innovative endeavours for generation next. The motive behind the concept is to build participative, transparent and responsive system. 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.

Hence, an attempt has been made in this paper to understand Digital India – as a campaign where technologies and connectivity will come together to make an impact on all aspects of governance and improve the quality of life of citizens. The objective of this paper is to know the impact, challenges of digital India on all aspects of governance and improvement in the quality of life of citizens. The research methodology is descriptive cum analytical in nature and the data for this study is collected through secondary sources such as websites, research journals, newspapers, magazines etc. The study gives an optimistic thought of providing more employment prospects for the youth which will boost the nation's economy if it comes into reality.

**Key Words:** Digital India, Digital Technology, e-Kranti, e-Governance

**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. 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.

The Digital India Programme has been launched with an aim of transforming the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The Digital India would ensure that Government services are available to citizens electronically. Digital India is a dream project of the government for the citizens and Industries of India which could help in connecting the various past and present projects to bring India to a global platform. Through this project government services are available for urban and rural citizens digitally or electronically. It will help to achieve digital innovation and create positive impact in the people living in rural and urban areas. It will attract investment in all product manufacturing industries. Andhra Pradesh is the first State to have opted this implementation.

**VISION OF DIGITAL INDIA INITIATIVE**

The three visions are shown in the diagram given below:

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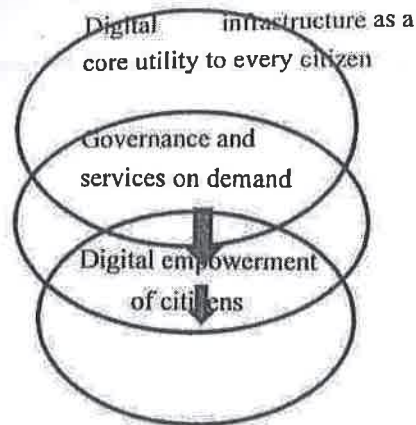
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### OBJECTIVES

1. To know how the technologies and connectivity will come together to make an impact on all aspects of governance and improve the quality of life of Indian citizens.
2. To find out how the government services can work effectively with practical solutions and innovative ideas to accomplish the vision of a digital India-a reality.
3. To find out the challenges in implementing this project.
4. To analyse the future prospects of the project.

### DATA COLLECTION

The secondary data has been collected. For this purpose, various magazines and journals have been used as it is a conceptual paper. Thus, the focus is to know more about the concept, its application and the impact on economy via other parameters. Therefore, qualitative and quantitative data have been used.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

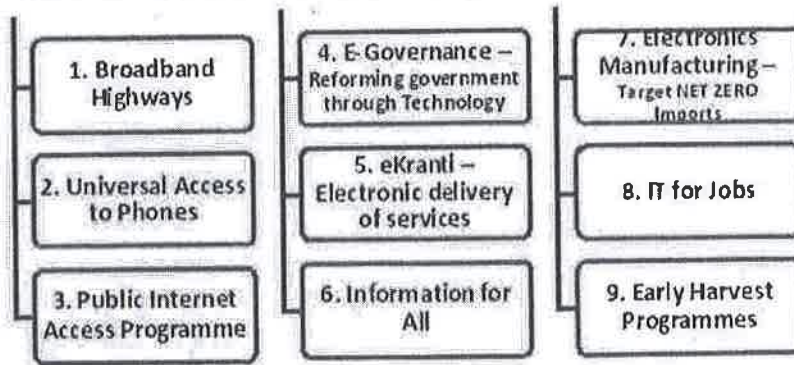
To make research a success, one has to define and plan the whole program properly and effectively. The research methodology is descriptive cum analytical in nature.

### SCOPE and LIMITATIONS

The overall scope of this programme is:

- To develop India for a knowledgeable future by developing central technology for allowing revolution this 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.

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:



### Limitations of the Study

Digital India is a dream project of the Modi government where some of the projects are ongoing and some of them are yet to start. Necessary design, redesign, reengineering activities is needed to for successful implementation of this project. As it is a new dream project much more data are not available and with the limited data this descriptive and analytical research has been made

### 1. MAJOR PROJECTS UNDER THE INITIATIVE

Digital India comprises of various initiatives under the single programme each targeted to prepare India for becoming a knowledge economy and for bringing good governance to citizens through synchronized and co-ordinated engagement of the entire Government. Nine projects have been undertaken. These are as follows:

- 1. Highways to have broadband services:** Government aims to lay national optical fibre network in all 2.5 lakh gram panchayats. Broadband for the rural will be laid by December 2016 and broadband for all urban will mandate communication infrastructure in new urban development and buildings. By March 2017, the government aims to provide nationwide information infrastructure.
- 2. 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.
- 3. IT Training for Jobs:** 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. Additionally, the project involves training of 0.5 million rural IT workforce in five years and setting up of BPOs in each North-eastern state.
- 4. Manufacturing of electronics:** 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.
- 5. Provide public access to internet:** The government aims to provide internet services to 2.5 lakh villages which comprises of one in every panchayat by March 2017
- 6. E-Governance:** 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.
- 7. E-Kranti:** This service aims to deliver electronic services to people which deals with health, education, farmers, justice, security and financial inclusion.
- 8. 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.

9. **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.

#### IS INDIA DIGITALLY READY

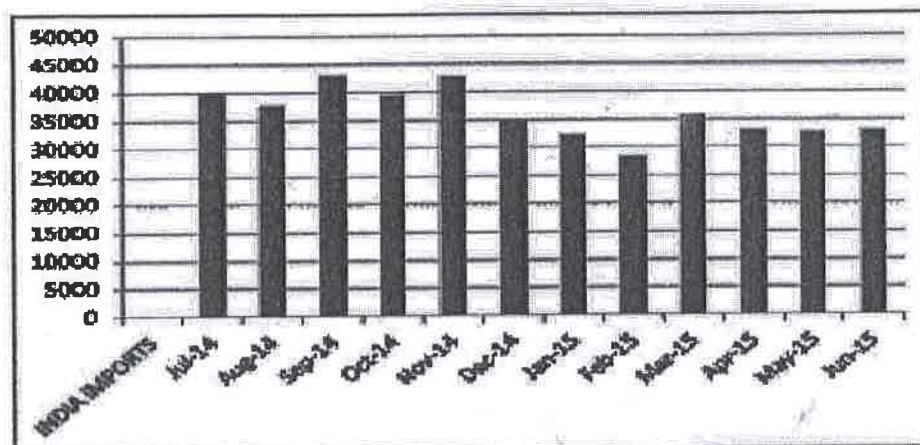
- ✓ There is no doubt in it. India is ready for this. Immediately with the introduction of this campaign, many organizations came forward to lend their hands for achieving India a digitally equipped country.
- ✓ Organizations like BSNL, Reliance Ltd. are coming forward to spread digitalization among rural areas. And over 42000 villages all over India will be having seamless mobile connectivity by 2018.
- ✓ The Internet Saathi initiative aims to cover 4,500 villages over the next 18 months, starting with Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jharkhand. India is aiming to achieve universal digital literacy across the country.
- ✓ The prime importance is to make sure every individual can be able to leverage the potential of Digital India. The focus is at least one person in a household should transform into an e-literate.
- ✓ This can be achieved by BBNL which is planning to connect 2, 50,000 panchayats under the scheme. This will ensure the digitization and connectivity of local institutions like panchayats offices, schools, other government offices and libraries etc.
- ✓ India is reforming its government through technology in the name of E-Governance with the advancement of technology and digitalization. Under the e-governance programme, out of 252 schemes planned, 222 services have been provided in short span of time.
- ✓ The nine pillars of Digital India programme clearly confirms that India as a nation is at its nascent stage. One can easily assure that India will be digitally ready in the next three years.

#### IMPACT

- India's economy has witnessed a significant economic growth in the recent past by growing 7.3 per cent in 2015 as against 6.9 per cent in 2014. The steps taken by the government in recent times have shown positive results as India's gross domestic product (GDP) at factor cost at constant (2011-12) prices 2014-15 is Rs 106.4 trillion (US\$ 1.596 trillion), as against Rs 99.21 trillion (US\$ 1.488 trillion) in 2013-14, registering a growth rate of 7.3 per cent.
- This clearly shows that the Digital India initiative introduced by Indian government has contributed a lot to boost the economy of the country. The Digital India project itself will create employment opportunities for 17 million people directly or indirectly which will help in fighting against unemployment problems in India.
- Government has planned to give IT training to 100 million students in smaller towns and villages as employment opportunity in IT sector is very high in India. In the next 5 years, India will emerge to be a leader in using IT in sectors like health, defence, education, agriculture and banking.
- Also the service sectors will be digitally empowered. In the field of education, it also assures broadband connectivity in all panchayats, schools, libraries and other public places. Apart from Broadband connectivity, every village is provided with universal phone connectivity across the country.
- 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. The digital inclusion among the country ensures the manufacturing sector to revive the electronics manufacturing.
- With the Make in India campaign and Digital India, the nation is planning to achieve net zero imports by 2020. This ensures the exports will be equal to the imports and this helps in the economic development of the nation.
- With the introduction of mobile connectivity in all villages, unique single portal can be maintained for all government related services.

#### India's Import of Software and Hardware In Million USD



World's leading research firm McKinsey has commented that the adoption of new technologies and innovative ideas across sectors by the Digital India programme will help India boost its GDP by \$550 billion to \$1 trillion by 2025.

Thus, the estimated impact of Digital India by 2019 would be cross cutting, ranging from broadband connectivity in all Panchayats, Wi-Fi in schools and universities and Public Wi-Fi hotspots. The programme will generate huge number of IT, Telecom and Electronics jobs, both directly and indirectly. Success of this programme will make India Digitally empowered and the leader in usage of IT in delivery of services related to various domains such as health, education, agriculture, banking, etc.

The Digital India program is just the beginning of a digital revolution, once implemented properly it will open various new opportunities for the citizens

#### CONCLUSION

With the imminent of "Digital India" campaign, India will have a heavy and powerful infrastructure. The outcome of Digital India is to provide Wi-Fi to people, creating job, universal phone connection, high speed internet, Digital Inclusion, e-Services, e-Governance, Digitally motivated people, National Scholarships Portal, Digital Lockers System, e-education and e-health making India to be pioneer in IT use solution. More employment prospects will open for the youth that will boost the nation's economy. And some of the aforementioned projects are under various stages of implementation which may require some transformational process reengineering, refinements and adjustment for successful implementation to achieve the desired objectives.

The success of this dream project lies not only in the hands of government but it requires all round support from the all citizens and other stake holders of the nation. Although, digital India