"Digital Transformation for the benefit of the people"

October 21, 2020

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Introduction

Digital India is the flagship program of the Government of India with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. This program is centered on the vision of offering digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen, providing governance and services on demand, enabling the digital empowerment of citizens.

Key pillars: The vision of Digital India would be supported by 9 key pillars viz:

Pillars	Purpose
Broadband Highway	To provide high-speed broadband coverage highways connecting about 250,000 villages. This is the world's largest optical fiber broadband.
Universal access to mobile	To provide mobile connectivity to about 42,300 villages
Public Internet Access Programme (PIAP)	To make 250,000 CSCs operational at Gram Panchayat level for delivery of government services To convert 150,000 post offices into multi-service centres
E-governance	To use business process re-engineering to transform government processes and make them simple, automated and efficient
E-kranti	To use technology for service delivery such as e-education, e-healthcare, technology for planning, farmers, security, financial inclusion, justice, etc.
Information for all	To provide open access to government information and documents online To provide two-way communication between citizens and the government through online platforms and social media
Electronics manufacturing	To target net zero imports by 2020, through various actions in areas such as taxation/incentives, economies of scale, skill development, government procurement, etc.
IT for jobs	To provide necessary skills and training that enable the youth to avail jobs in IT/ITes sector
Early harvest programmes	To focus on execution of project within short timelines, such as IT platform for messages, e-greetings from the government, biometric attendance, Wi-Fi in all universities, etc.

Initiatives Taken by the Current Government and their Progress

1. **Finance:**
   - Digital/Cashless Economy

   Electronic transfers have made a huge social impact as they ensure the timely transfer of benefits to citizens, bringing efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability to the system, eliminating pilfering and curbing leakage and duplication, and most important help in establishing a cashless economy.

- Unified Payments Interface [UPI] – UPI or Unified Payments Interface is an immediate real-time payment system that helps in instantly transferring the funds between the two bank accounts through a mobile platform.
  Total number of transactions in June, 2020 - 1.8 times higher total amount transacted - Rs 2, 61,835 crores, up 1.79 times year-on-year.

- : This is envisioned as a move to empower Indian citizens through DBT and head towards inclusive growth.
  40 Cr beneficiaries & 30 Crores + RuPay debit cards have also been issued.

- **Direct Benefit Transfer:** DBT will allow efficient tracking and monitoring of benefits transfer and save public money. Cutting middlemen and putting more money into beneficiaries account.
  330 million+ poor people get food at affordable prices, thus enhancing their food security.

  150 million+ beneficiaries –Amount received Rs 12, 86,098 Cr since 2014;
  Rs. 1, 70,377 Cr – Saved; 51 ministries and 363 schemes.

- **Transparent Taxation Platform**: Bringing transparency in income tax systems, empowering taxpayers, faceless assessment, faceless appeal and taxpayer charter.

- The **PAHAL** initiative, which allows DBT in the case of LPG cylinders
  1.62 million + people have voluntarily given up.

- **JAM Trinity**: It will allow transfer of benefits in a targeted & leakage-proof manner, access to financial resources to underprivileged and marginalized sections of society.
  Linkage of Aadhaar and DBT has helped government save close to 830 billion INR (US$11.5 billion).

2. **e-Governance**:

- Aadhar: Aadhaar is a universal number, and agencies and services can contact the central Unique Identification database from anywhere in the country to authenticate a beneficiary's identity by availing authentication services. Gives easy hassle free access to services and financial inclusion.
  Aadhar enrolled - 120 billion by Jan, 2020.

- UMANG: It is a unified, secure, multi-channel, multi-platform, multi-lingual, multi-service mobile app. Can avail a number of pan India e-government services.
  2017 - 162 services and in 2020- 187 services across 158 dept.

- Digi Locker: The locker can be accessed by individuals, using their mobile number. Digi Locker can store a e documents as well as Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) link of e-documents issued by various issuer departments.
  47.91 Million – Registered users, 4.18 Billion – Issued Authentic Documents, 563 - Issuer Organization

- GeM: GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.

47,532 - Buyer Organizations, 597,152 - Sellers & Service Providers, 48,196 - Service Offerings, Rs. 67,896 - Transactions Value (Cr.), 4,853,207 – Orders

- E-Transport: An automated system for efficient working of Transport departments and service delivery to the citizens for issue of vehicle registration & driving license;
  25.77 Cr Vehicles registered; 13.71 Cr Licenses issued; 3,89,111 Cr

3. **e-Education**

- **National Digital Library**: NDL is the Single Window Platform that collects and collates metadata from premier learning institutions in India and abroad, as well as other relevant sources. 1.7 Crores content from more than 160 sources, in over 200 languages.

- **e-Vidya**: The government is committed to ensuring learning for all, with equity, so as to cover all students at all levels of education and in all geographical locations, even in the remotest parts of the country. "One nation, one digital platform" and "one class one channel".

4. **e-Health:**

- **Digitization of AIIMS:** First Digital Revolution in Healthcare in India, India's First Fully Digital Public Hospital. Online registration system enables patients to register from anywhere across the globe, with an Aadhar-enabled number.
  45 lakh beneficiaries - highest footfalls of Digital India Projects; 3 crore patients - Benefitted

- E-Sanjeevani OPD: National Online OPD service; It aims to provide healthcare services to patients in their homes and connect 1.5 lakh wellness centres by 2022.
  4 lakh+ tele-consultations in 6 months; 4,600 doctors have been trained; Average over 6000 consultations / day; 196 online OPDs;

- Aarogya Setu App: Contact tracing and mapping of likely hotspots and dissemination of relevant information about Covid-19.
  11 different languages; 50 million downloads - within 13 days of launch, 2020 - 127.6 million downloads

- **Ayushmaan Bharat**: The world's largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government. It provides cashless access to health care services for the beneficiary at the point of service.
  Issued - 12.58 crores + e- healthcards
  Coverage: Over 10.74 crores poor and vulnerable entitled families (approximately 50 crores beneficiaries) are eligible for these benefits.

5. **e-Agriculture:**

- IMD Weather Reports: Minimize the impact of adverse weather on crops; make use of favorable weather to boost agricultural production.

Two mobiles apps- 'Mausam' and 'Meghdoot' - Help enhance dissemination activity of weather forecast and warning services. 24*7 forecasts of weather conditions in 450 India cities.

- Soil Health Cards: enabled the farmers to understand the soil health parameters and improve the productivity by judicious application of soil nutrients.
  Decline of 8-10% - use of chemical fertilizers; raised productivity - 5-6%.
  Soil Health Cards issued [2015-17] - 10.74 crore and [2017-19] - 11.74 crore

- **e-NAM**: The NAM Portal provides a single window service for all APMC related information and services. Helped in better price realization for the farmers through elimination of middlemen.
  Objective of "one nation one market"; **Integration of Mandis** – 500+
  No. of registered farmers - 1.66 crores, 1.44 lakh - traders across 21 states; 1000+ FPOs

- Kisan Credit Card: To extend credit schemes to farmers and incentivized loans, support post harvest losses.
  6.95 crore active KCCs; Special drive June-July 2020 – 1.5 Cr dairy farmers to be issued KCC

- Digitization of Land Records: To improve the quality of land records, make them more accessible, and move towards government-guaranteed titles; Real-time land ownership records, reduce citizen interface with Govt.
  Land Record Computerized - 5, 91,617 villages i.e. 90%.

- A.I in Agriculture: In Crop and Soil Monitoring, Predictive Agricultural Analytics, Supply Chain Efficiencies
  In a few dozen villages in Telangana, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh farmers received automated message on pest risk.

- Use of drones in Agriculture: Agriculture drone empowers the farmer to adapt to specific environments and make mindful choices.
  North-eastern states – for monitoring the plantations; Tamil Nadu government - custom drones to spray pesticides; Sugarcane farmers from Maharashtra - to monitor the wilt disease they were facing.

- Disaster Management - Provide early warning, locate people, and provide relief materials, survey damages caused.
  AI based model was used to send a map-based alert to people who lived within thousand square kilometers around Patna; SATARK is a citizen centric one stop app for information related to multiple disasters.

- **Common Service Centres**: These are internet enabled centres along near door step access to citizens to government private and social services. The Government launched the CSC 2.0 scheme in 2015 to expand the outreach of CSCs to all 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats across the country.