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## Digital India Programme: An Overview

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#### **Abstract**

In the period of digitalization and hi-tech innovation, expertise has become a vital component of our life. Technology is the most important factor in influencing the innovative global economy and producing speedy changes in society. In the past decade, new technology has necessarily changed the reach of people converse and work. It is well-identified information that Digital India is the result of numerous innovations and technological advancement. These renovate the lives of people in many ways and will make a powerful society a superior model.

Digital India Programme was launched by the Government of India in 2015 with the objective of transforming India into a digitally empowered society. The aim of the research paper is to analyze the Digital India Programme and to explore its various aspects. The study highlights the various steps taken by the Government and also their impact on Indian society.

Keywords: Digital India Programme, E-Governance, Digital Infrastructure, Post COVID-19 World

#### 1. Introduction

In the latest years, digitalization has become one of the crucial factors in accelerating the pace of economic growth, promoting social and economic equity by enhancing access to information, markets, and public services; and overcoming the infrastructure deficit of India. It can help India to realize the ambition of creating a just and equitable society. It can also assist to impel the nation to the look stage of nations, mainly leveraging the energies of young people, with its tendency for rapid adjustment and economical advance.

India is one of the greatest digitizing nations in the world; motivated by a sudden increase in mobile connectivity, the penetration of internet infrastructure countrywide under the iconic Bharat Net Programme, the exponential expansion of data utilization, and the coming out of start-ups in the digital revolution space that are creating new livelihoods, services and wealth for millions of citizens. Currently, over 1200 million people possess digital identities in the form of Aadhaar cards, while there are over 1200 million mobile phones and 550 million internet connections.

Digital India Programme (DIP) launched by the Government of India (GOI) has helped immensely in further strengthening the foundation of the digital services landscape in the country over the last five years. The DIP also provides a chance for citizens in digital freedom to do trade in India. The volume and range that India offers is a big business opportunity for global companies. The DIP has witnessed many key milestones, and there are many more to come. Slowly and steadily, every industry has realized and witnessed the true value of digitalization. In fact, it is this foundation that has today equipped us better for the Post COVID-19 world.

The DIP was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, to improve internet connectivity and increase digital literacy. The other objectives of the initiative are inclusive growth in the areas of electronic services, products, manufacturing, and job opportunities.

Under the DIP, launched by the GOI in 2015 with the objective of transforming India into a digitally empowered society, the post offices are required to work as multi-service centers, play a major role in facilitating financial inclusion through disseminating information about government policies and disbursement of social security benefits.

The DIP is the beginning of digital revolution. It is a dream which is created by the GOI to ensure that government services are made available to citizens electronically, even in remote areas, by improving the online infrastructure and by increasing the internet connectivity. The programme has one operation and one intention that are to obtain country ahead digitally and reasonably.

India can generate over \$1 trillion of financial value from the digital economy in 2025, with half the prospect originating in latest digital ecosystems that can jump up in various sectors, says a statement from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, in partnership with McKinsey. According to the details, the probable for five-fold enlarges in financial worth from India's digital revolution by 2025 would create a speedily emergent marketplace for a host of digital services, platforms, applications, substance, and solutions.

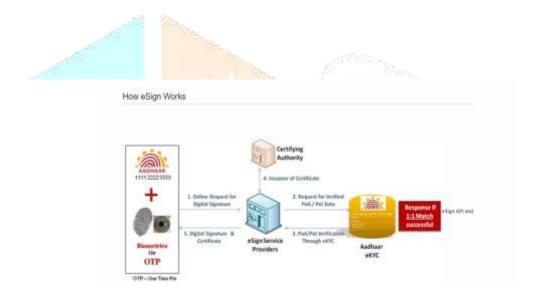
In the same line of digital governance, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Google have signed a statement to roll-out the 'Build for the DIP'. The initiative aims to provide college students a chance to innovate and produce some good technology solutions for the major social challenges of India.

#### 2. History of DIP

The DIP, launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 has an objective of connecting rural areas with their high-speed internet networks and improving the digital literacy. The visualization of DIP is comprehensive enlargement in areas of electronic services, goods, industrialized and work opportunities etc. It is centered on three key areas- Digital infrastructure as helpfulness to all resident, authority & services on order and Digital empowerment of nation.

#### 3. Key Initiatives under the DIP

**3.1 E-signature:** It is to recommend an online service to the people for the immediate signing of their papers securely in a lawfully good enough form. The Aadhar based verification is used to upload signatures by electronic means.



- **3.2 Digi-locker:** It offers a committed individual storage space that is associated with each resident's Aadhaar number. It is able to be used in safety store E-documents.
- **3.3 Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA):** It aims to communicate IT guidance to the IT-illiterate people. The programme aims to instruct 52.5 lakh people, as well as Anganwadi and ASHA staff and certified portion dealers in all the States/UTs crosswise the nation.
- **3.4 National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN):** This proposal is a determined inventiveness to activate a broadband uprising in the rural areas.
- **3.5 Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI):** It is a multi-use and multi-modal policy that is designed at addressing ordinary man's grievances and at the same time monitoring and reviewing significant programmes and projects of the GOI as well as the projects launched by the State Governments.

- **3.6 DigiSevak:** This proposal campaign to attach the nation with the administration for a variety of DIP actions by Ministries and agencies of the government. It also offers a scheme used for the continuous organization of the volunteering actions.
- **3.7 IndiaStack:** It is a set of Open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that allows a mixture of stakeholders such as governments, businesses, startups, and developers to make use of an exceptional digital infrastructure to resolve India's troubles towards paperless and cashless service freedom.
- **3.8 BHIM app:** It is an app to facilitate digital payments and encourage rapid, protected, trustworthy cashless payments from end to end mobile phone. BHIM app was used to make possible 913 million transactions in the financial year 2017-18.

#### 4. Review of Literature

Present have been a variety of researches on dissimilar aspects of the inventiveness ranging from the cost-effective to societal and moral proportions. A few of these researches retrieved from beginning to end internet searches have been reviewed here.

Arvind (2015), has expressed that the DI movement will play an important role in the effective delivery of services, monitoring performance, managing projects, and improving governance.

Gupta and Arora (2015), contemplated the impact of advanced India venture on India's rural part. The examination discovered that various plans have been propelled in advanced India to help farming division and business enterprise improvement in common zones. Furthermore, the advanced India programme has set the phase for the strengthening of the common Indian ladies.

Midha (2016), argued that the highly developed India is a strange means to create India in order future, yet it is unsuitable usage. Disregarding the way that computerized India programme is defying a number of difficulties, yet in case appropriately actualized it can make the best eventual fate of each resident. So, we the Indians should collaborate to shape the learning economy. The digital movement would get everything on the palms of people. It would enable giving services to people in real-time, cutting over every hindrance. Similarly, it will improve the use of cloud benefits and empower subjects to get their due just from these administrations.

According to Katakam (2018), the DIP is a national campaign to transform India into a globally connected hub. It includes a mixture of proposals and incentives specified to companies, essentially the manufacturing companies together home and overseas to invest in India and make the country a digital destination. The DI is the power to empower, which transforms instruction manual scheme of Government into an electronic scheme, and inventiveness through by GOI to interrelate effortlessly and competently through the community. It becomes easier for the citizens to take the profit of electronic deliverance of the government services.

#### 5. Objectives of the Paper

The mean of the current paper is three-fold:

- **5.1** To analyze the concept of the DIP
- **5.2** To study the impact of the DIP on the people and economy of the country.
- **5.3** To find out various challenges faced by the DIP

#### 6. Research Methodology

This study attempts to explain the overview of the DIP. The paper is based on the secondary data from the previous efforts of experts, Orders of Governments, and opinions expressed by the various stakeholders. The in order is retrieved from the internet via journals, research papers, and specialist opinions on the identical subject material. The primary focus is to clear the concept of DIP, its application, and the impact on the Indian economy.

#### 7. DIP has the Vision

The vision of DIP is inclusive growth in areas of electronic services, products, manufacturing, and job opportunities. It is midpoint lying on three key in areas, (i) digital infrastructure as effectiveness to all resident (ii) supremacy and services on require, and (iii) digital empowerment of people (Fig.-1).

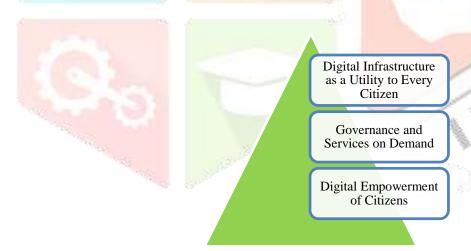


Figure-1: Vision of the DIP

#### 8. Objectives of the DIP

The intention of the DIP is Power to Empower. There are three core components to the DI initiative. The foremost objectives of this inventiveness are listed below:

- 1. To provide high-speed internet in all the gram panchayats.
- 2. To provide easy access to the Common Service Centres (CSCs) in the entire locality.
- **3.** To combine a large number of ideas and thoughts into a single, comprehensive vision so that each of them is seen as a part of the larger goal.
- **4.** Restructuring many existing schemes that can be implemented in a synchronized manner.
- **5.** To promote the concept of collaborative and participative governance through the continuous interaction of the people and state.
- **6.** To bring citizens closer to government schemes through the use of the electronic medium and online mode.

#### 9. Pillars of the DIP

The DIP is associate umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments. It weaves along a vast quantity of thoughts and views into a solitary, wide-ranging visual image thus all of them could also be enforced as a fraction of the superior goal. Every individual part stands on its own but is to boot a part of the superior image. The DIP is to be enforced by the whole Government with overall coordination being done by the Department of physics and data Technology (DeitY). The DIP aims to provide the much-needed thrust to the 9 pillars of the growth areas (Table-1).

Table-1: The Pillars of DIP

Sl.	The Pillars of	Area Covered Under This Pillars
No.	DIP	
1.	Broadband Highways	Birth of National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) overall a combine of 0.5 hundred thousand Gram Panchayats inside the country will happen terribly very phased manner.
2.	Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity	Ensuring mobile access in around forty four Thousands uncovered villages inside the country and government is taking steps to create positive that every one village's are coated through mobile property by 2018.
3.	Public internet Access	To enlarge the coverage of Common Services Center (CSC) from 1.35 lakhs to 1.5 lakhs, i.e. one in each Panchayat.
4.	E-Governance	Business procedure re-engineering square measure undertaken to recover procedure and repair rescue. Services square measure incorporated with UIDAI, payment entry and mobile policy.
5.	E-Kranti	E-Kranti target electronic consent to operation, free services whether it is learning, fitness, agriculture, justice and economic inclusion.
6.	World info	The center of attention square measure on on-line hosting of data and positive commitment from side to side social media and net primarily based platforms like MyGov.
7.	Electronics Manufacturing	Concentrate is on set-top boxes, VSAT, mobile, shopper physics, medical physics, wise energy meters, wise cards and little ATMs.
8.	IT Training for Jobs	The government is planning to train 1,00,00,000 students from small cities and villages for IT sector.
9.	Early Harvest Programmes	The Govt. is planning to deploy Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System altogether the central government offices placed at metropolis. An internet support appliance code will facilitate on-line recording of selection gift and its presentation by the apprehensive stakeholders.

Every of these houses could also be a hard programme in itself and cut across manifold Ministries and Departments.

#### 10. Advantages of the DIP

The DIP is combining in tending initiative that encompasses plans to attach the agricultural areas of the country with high-speed web networks. On the show place of digital implementation, Position of India is the apex two countries internationally and therefore the digital market of India is probable to cross \$1 trillion next to the year 2022. Resulting are some of the profits of this programme:

- **10.1 Removal of the black economy:** All the net transactions may be monitored simply and each payment created by any client to any merchandiser would be recorded. During this means, there wouldn't be any felonious transactions and it'd be not possible for individuals to cover their cash. By means that confining the cash-based business and use simply digital payments, the Govt. will appropriately force out the black economy system.
- **10.2 Increase in revenues:** Another massive good thing about the DIP is that because the transactions get digitized, watching the sales and taxes becomes far more convenient, because the transactions are recorded, customers would currently get a bill for each purchase that they create and merchants will currently now not escape paying tax to the govt., this leads to will increase of revenue of the Govt., therefore leading to the expansion of the economic conditions of the country.
- **10.3 Authorization to the people:** One among the most important advantages of the DIP is that it provides authorization to the voters. Once the payments move digitally, every individual is definite to have an own bank account, a mobile, etc. during this means; the govt. will simply transfer the subsidies to the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of the people. In undersize, individuals now not ought to stay to receive the inducement and money help that they're leap to require delivery of commencing the Govt. This attribute is antecedently in position within the majority of the urban areas. One illustration of this characteristic is LPG support that the Govt. provides to standard voters. This support payment is at the current completed via bank transfer these times.
- **10.4 Paves the thanks to E-governance:** E-governance may be alarming again and purpose for all the voters. It's faster, more rapidly, and safer compared to earliest governance. With the assistance of E-governance, one will get something from the certificate to the death certificate directly. This can be convenient for folks to access the knowledge they have on the means.
- **10.5 Creation of recent jobs:** With the initiative of the DIP, there are various ways in which to boost job opportunities in new markets still as increasing employment opportunities in existing markets. The new markets have started hiring individuals, therefore increasing the utilization rate.

#### 11. DIP face Challenges

The Indian Govt. has taken academic level initiative through the DIP to attach the various rural areas of the country with high-speed and good Internet networks. Apart from the varied initiatives taken by the DIP, there are so many challenges which are faced by it. Diversity of the challenges of the DIP is as follows:

(i) Nearly five years have passed since the DIP is declared. Approach of challenges has compressed the rate of implementation.

- (ii) Where there's still twenty-five quantity illiteracy, the target of a high level of digital illiteracy is one all told the foremost very important challenges among the success of DIP. To stay with ASSOCHAM-Deloitte's description on DI, New style period of time 2016, on the edge of 950 million Indians are still not on Infobahn. Reliance Jio has one more pack in his browse.
- (iii) Making awareness regarding the DI theme amongst the common lots is additionally a straight forward challenge.
  - (iv) It's a large task to possess the property with every village, town, and city. Involving 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats from getting the entire manner all the system to finish the National Glass Fiber is not an easy mission. The leading approach to confirm that each Punchayet arrangement of broad-band is stable and serviceable. It is initiated that sixty-seven of National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) centers are non-functional even at the direct stage.
- (v) Asian nation has extremely low web speed. To stay with the third quarter 2016 Akamai report on web speed, the Asian nation is at the 105<sup>th</sup> position among the earth in average web speed and it's the lowest among the entire Asia Pacific region. This lowest web speed cannot facilitate on-line delivery of the varied services.
- (vi) The personal participation in government comes in the Asian nation is poor because of the long and complicated restrictive processes. The foremost very important challenge long-faced by the DIP is that the slow and delayed infrastructure development.
- (vii) Personal participation in government comes in the Asian nation is poor because of the long and complicated restrictive processes.
- (viii) ASSOCHAM Deloitte Report noted that presently, over 50000 villages remain blank with connectivity of mobiles reason behind that connectivity of mobiles in such areas isn't commercially practicable for the service suppliers.

#### 12. Conclusions

The DIP has completed now the 5<sup>th</sup> year of its existence and several projects under this programme have now moved from the planning phase to the execution phase. A digitally associated India can facilitate in improving social and economic position of citizens from beginning to end the expansion of the non-agricultural financial behavior separately from provided that access to the teaching, fitness, and economic services. The DIP is just the commencement of a digital revolution, once implemented properly; it will open various new opportunities for the citizens. After completing the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the programme, one can realize the fact that there have been dramatic improvements in all of its three key facets: in the formation of all-encompassing nationwide digital infrastructure, in the electronic deliverance of civic services and economic succor to people, and in attractive digital consciousness and literacy.

The mission has happening performance its force on the life of people and on trade. Several schemes of the project have been adopted successfully. DI is good to change the interface of the nation's financial elements. It is deemed to update systems and infrastructure and leverage the nation's workforce, establishing a firm establishment towards sustainable practices and eventually progress. The overall growth and development can be realized through supporting and enhancing elements such as literacy, basic infrastructure, and the overall business environment.

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