

DIGITAL INDIA: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

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Abstract :-“Digital India” is an initiative of the Central Government of our country “ to transform the India into a global digitized hub” by reviving a rundown digital sector of India with the help of improving digital connectivity and skill enhancement in our country and various other incentives to make the country digitally empowered in the field of technology. This paper reviews various challenges that will occur in the path of implementing the digital India initiative in our country. Further the paper also reviews the various opportunities which the people of our country will get in their real-life because of this program.

KEYWORDS: Digital India, Opportunities, Skill Enhancement, Empowered.

I. INTRODUCTION:-

During the latest years of XX century, two important phenomena have been emerging: urbanization and information and communication technologies. Digital India Program is a national campaign to transform India into a globally connected . It includes various proposals and incentives given to companies, basically the manufacturing companies both domestic and foreign to invest in India and make the country a digital destination. The emphasis of Digital India campaign is on creating jobs and skill enhancement in the Broadband Highways, e-Governance, and Electronic delivery of services, Universal access to Mobile Connectivity, Electronics Manufacturing, and Information for All etc. The campaign’s

aim is to resolve the problems of connectivity and therefore help us to connect with each other and also to share information on issues and concerns faced by us. In some cases they also enable resolution of those issues in near real time. This initiative is focused to help India gain a better rural connectivity with a stable governmental policies in the background coupled with benefits and incentives via the campaign. Simultaneously the initiative is designed to create jobs and enhance skill development which will ultimately lead to increase in GDP and revenues from tax.

II. CHALLENGES, RECOMMENDATIONS SUGGESTIONS :-

The Digital India campaign can’t be a successful campaign merely by implementation or by incentivizing industry. For a hugely rewarding success, the campaign should move forward taking along other policies, amending redundant laws, focusing on necessary infrastructure building etc. One such hindrance in the way of Digital India is the first is the digital infrastructure, which requires to be put in place. For this the telecom infrastructure will form the base. On top of this layer we need the IT infrastructure in the form of apps, software etc. The second set is

content that needs to be relevant to the citizens and address their real-time requirements. The third layer is capacity. Unless we have the all these three sets (i.e. telecom infrastructure, content, capacity) we won't be able to meet the supply commence rate of the demand. If this point is not taken proper care of then there would be clashes between the people in the rural areas and the government which will result in delay in commencing the project which will ultimately defeat the Digital India campaign's spirit of quick and hassle free ease of doing business. If this government takes the agenda forward and does not leave any of the constituent parts gasping for funds, the opportunities are huge for the country in general and for willing participants in the IT sector as well! There is much to be done, from the creation of smart cities to the comprehensive availability of broadband, from connectivity in education, healthcare, agriculture, and manufacturing to a National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM) that Nasscom Foundation has already taken up with the Department of Electronics & IT (DeitY). What is important to understand is that like any elephant, Digital India has many parts and each has to be addressed to make the big vision a reality. Another recommendation as to digital connectivity is to reduce the judicial clearances and stability in ruling which can act as a major impetus to the technological sector as it will attract high investor confidence with the judicial rulings being fair and pro-business. Going by the present practices, the imposition of certain amendments with retrospective effect has

garnered much noise in the past and should immediately be taken notice of.

The more stable, quick and fair the judgment in basically cases relating to the business and taxation sectors, the better the chances of attracting more business leaders to invest more. The Judicial clearances and stability in ruling can act as a major impetus to the technological sector as it will attract high investor confidence with the judicial rulings being fair and pro-business. Going by the present practices the imposition of certain amendments with retrospective effect has garnered much noise in the past and should immediately be taken notice of. The more stable, quick and fair judgments in these cases relating to the business and taxation sectors, the better the chances of attracting more business leaders to invest more.

As another recommendation, Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi in his inimitable style touched all the right chords in his speech, which included in its ambit the opportunities for access to better healthcare, education, and information for better livelihood that is at the core of the digital opportunity. A lot will be expected from the national broadband mission to lay the digital infrastructure on which many of these national applications can be mounted. In the last couple of years, Nasscom Foundation with its 'Follow the Fiber' approach and the active partnership of technology majors Intel, Google, and Microsoft has shown that village wide digital literacy is possible with successful outcomes in three villages in different parts of the country and more on the way.

III. CONCLUSIONS:-

Digital India' initiative is a refreshing move and quite the need of the hour for the weakened technological sector.

The Government of India hopes to achieve growth on multiple fronts with the Digital India Programme. Specifically, the government aims to target nine 'Pillars of the Digital India' that they identify as being.

- Broadband Highways
- Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity
- Public Internet Access Programme
- e-Governance – Reforming Government through Technology
- eKranti - Electronic delivery of services
- Information for All
- Electronics Manufacturing
- Digital or IT for Jobs
- Early Harvest Programmes.

However, it requires to be rightly substantiated with amendments to various legislations that have for long hindered the growth of Indian technology. India should focus more on developing domestically led connectivity, promoting research and innovation-led development to establish itself strongly on the international stage as an economic superpower and particularly a thriving technological hub.

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