# DIGITAL INDIA

## Introduction:

♦ History has been witness to many social & Economic revolutions. Beginning with agricultural going to the Industrial and then the Technological, these revolutions have changed the face of humanity.

♦ Now the digital revolution is redefining the pare of progress opening countless avenues to transform society culture & lifestyles.

♦ On line with digital revolution the government of India launched programme with aim of providing information equality to everyone which is the final realisation of Poorna Swaraj for every individual as poverty in India is very rarely caused by lack of resource or ability. It is due to oppression deliberately or otherwise caused by asymmetry in information & Knowledge.

♦ The truth is that property is an information problem. Reversing this trend, unleashing India's vast potential requires a level of transparency, speed of operations & efficiency in implementation. All this is very much possible by digital India.

## Digitalisation:

♦ Digitalisation as a phenomenon made its onset long ago but the pace was so gradual & changes were suitable almost unnoticed.

♦ Early digital initiatives were mainly to preserve records, create in house office management systems, processing of data etc.,

♦ Over the last 10 years that the digital revolution has opened a whole new vista of opportunities reshaping the scope of development.

♦ India is fastest growing economy, has undergone complete transformation with uptake of digital technologies from internet to AI, Robotics, Etc.,

♦ It has profound on the way people interact with each other, the way business do & government services.

♦ Digital revolution has touched many areas of relevance to the common man like mobile revolution has done.

♦ The entire gamut of digital transformation is to provide innovative products & services to improve productivity & efficiency.

## Merits:

♦ It is aimed to empower the poor and the underprivileged by using technology that is affordable, developmental and inclusive. As Inclusive growth and empowerment of ordinary Indians is at the core of digital India.

♦ Due to digital revolution there is boom in the growth of IT Industry. Global IT giants started investing in India. As India has became bigger user base for many internet companies.

♦ IT Professionals and IT Companies (Indian) Travelled to different part of world, which is becoming greater source of currency reserves through remittances.

♦ Technologies have been used to distribute economic opportunity and job creations more equitably.

♦ Initially coming up with clones of western product the startup ecosystem is increasingly creating innovative products and services focused or solving Indian problems on different fields.

♦ Initiatives like Aadhar has provided a digital identity to supplement the physical identity of individuals for delivery of various welfare programmes which curbed leakages and corrupt practices from public welfare delivery mechanism.

## Government Initiative:

♦ Government has initiated many programmes to further the Digital revolution.

♦ Aadhar was the major initiative of the government to streamline government derives through DBT, JAM trinity digital payments are now possible through apps like BHIM, Rupay, debit card, e-sign. Jeevan Pramaan has made life easier for the old who can get verification of life through digital life certificates to draw their pensions.

♦ The effort of government to encourage startups has paid rich dividends. Today India has emerged as the third largest startup ecosystem in the world.

♦ Under digital India programme, various initiatives has been undertaken towards providing digital identities, creating digital infrastructure enabling delivery of services, promoting employment so on.

♦ UMANG App has put the power of governance in the hands of common people with single app that covers more than 370 government services in 13 different languages.

♦ Some of the Digital initiative of government in different sectors are.

## Digital Infrastructure:

♦ Building robust digital infrastructure is essential for the success of digital India. On keeping this in mind government of India launched Bharat Net Programme.

♦ Bharat Net aims to provide high speed internet in rural areas of India by building optical fibre network connecting all the 2.50 Lakh gram panchayats.

♦ National Knowledge Network is a state-of-the-art network to promote collaboration and exchange of knowledge among educational & research institutes.

♦ 497 District banks to NIC district centres have been commissioned under NKN.

♦ In order to utilize & harness the benefit of cloud computing government-initiated GI cloud (Meghraj) Which aims to ensure optimum utilization of the infrastructure.

♦ Central of excellence are being setup in the areas of internet of things (NOT), Internal security, IPR, Fintech etc.,

## Agriculture:

♦ **Soil health Card:** National soil health card scheme will provide information on soil health digitally.

♦ **E-Nam:** Electronic National Agriculture market is a pan India electronic trading platform which connect agriculture produce marketing committee mandis which helps farmers to sell their produce directly.

## Judiciary:

♦ **National Judicial data grid:** This is comprehensive data base of 9.16 crore court cases and judgements that has been integrated with the e-court. It provides information on cases pending, cases disposed and cases filed.

## Health:

♦ e-hospital and online registration services: Aim to ensure that patients can get easy access to doctors. It is implemented in 318 hospitals, 5.6 crore transaction took place till mow. Mobile apps like practo, portea providing medical services including treatment recommendations based on patients records.

## Digital Literacy:

♦ In Line with the objective to make one-person e-literate in every household two schemes NDLM and DISHA was launched where 53.7 lakh person were trained and certified in digital literacy in the country.

♦ Government Approved PMGDISHA (Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan) to user in digital literacy in rural areas. This is the largest digital literacy mission of the world.

## Regulation & Governance:

♦ A major portion of the application & services that are being developed are bared on the mobile connectivity, hence the role of Telecom service providers as well as the regulators become more & more challenging.

♦ Emerging technologies, along with the face of commercialization of these technologies, has broken the popular myth that the regulations can made deliberately at a slower pace and would be in place unchanged for a long time.

♦ There is urgent need for framing the new set of regulations & frameworks that facilitate seamless co – existence as well as smooth migration to new technologies.

♦ The regulation is not only entrusted with the responsibility to ensure the compatibility of the new technology with the legacy, framework but also foster innovation on the other.

♦ As it involved multiple field, there will be need for all alternative regulations involving multiple regulatory bodies.

## Challenges:

♦ The Digital revolution has permeated every facet of life and business but like any other technology, this also has come with considerable challenges.

♦ Regulatory facilitation and debottlenecking by government are critical across sectors for rapid progress.

♦ Recent SC Judgement on Aadhaar appears to bar use of aadhar by private sector even with the consent of citizen is upsetting, which will restrict innovation & convenient service delivery.

♦ Conservative regulations in health care that disallow remote treatment by doctors are retarding the growth of commercial ecosystem in this field.

- Even though digital India can solve the current problem and promote equality, transparency, the caution is it cannot be done in piecemeal. If we fail to serve everything digitally or fail to ensure it reaches everyone, we make the problem worse by deepening the asymmetry and creating check points.

- Digital revolution will shift from resources, capital and labour constraint to resources, capital and Invention constrains, all successful large enterprises will be rich due to it, others diminish. Every global economy will go through social upheaval as jobs disappear & people are left to fend for themselves.

- If the nation is not prepared to adopt digital. In case of India world bank has assessed that India will lose 69% of its existing jobs.

## Way Forward:

- In the 21st Century, Digital economy has emerged as a key driver for global economic growth which will effectively address common global challenges.

- It is equally clear that the challenges that must be overcome while traversing this path are not trivial either. Concerned efforts to facilitate and promote process of digitalisation including upgrading digital infrastructure, augmenting capacity to develop standards, promoting electronic manufacturing is need for an hour.

- The new era requires speed in thought, action governance & regulatory changes.

- Though a large number of initiatives have been undertaken both by the government as well as the private sector but still a large population remains devoid of connectivity of internet.

- Spreading awareness as well as connecting every individual are keys to the socio – economic metamorphosis of our country.

## Conclusion:

- Today we stand at a confluence of several synergistic progressions that have collectively created an incredible spring board for highly accelerated economic growth and development. This endeavour is and will remain a key determinant of India's growth path.

- India into a digitally empowered society will being significant changes in the lives of its citizens.