DIGITAL INDIA: THE ERA CHANGER

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Abstract

Digital India is campaign launched by Hon'ble Prime Minster of India, Shri Narendra Modi on July 02, 2015 to transform India into Digitally Empowered Society and Knowledge Economy. Digital India, an umbrella term includes Nine Pillars viz. broadband highways, universal access to mobile connectivity, public internet access programme, E-governance, E-kranti, information for all, electronic manufacturing, IT for jobs, early harvest programme. It aims at providing government services electronically to the citizens of India. This paper is article type which discusses the Vision Areas of Digital India, Dreams of Digital India, various services provided under Digital India like Digital Lockers, MY GOV. Platform, Attendance.gov.in, E-sign, E-Hospital, Swachh Bharat Mission Mobile App, National Scholarship Portal, BharatNet, E-Kranti, E-Pragati and various developments that India will have by 2019.

Introduction

Digital India under Ministry of Communication and IT, Government of India was launched on 2nd July 2015 by the Prime Minister of India i.e. Mr. Shri Narendra Modi. The main motive of this campaign is to transform India into a 'Digitally Empowered Society and Knowledge Economy'. It also aims at digitalizing rural areas in India. So that rural areas can be connected with the big cities and must be aware about the latest technology. By making the rural areas or cities Digital, government is trying to motivate people towards the field of Technology. The Custody of Digital India was given to the BHARAT BROADBAND NETWORK LIMITED (BBNL). When the BBNL was selected as the custodian of Digital India the first step which they took was to connect 2,50,000 Villages With Cities through GIGABIT PASSIVE OPTICAL NETWORK (GPON) by the way of FIBRE TO THE PREMISES (FTTP). This was the First big step taken by BBNL. The work of connecting rural areas to cities was estimated to be completed till 2017. After taking this big step government started the plan to create 28,000 jobs in BPO's in different part of Country.

Vision of Digital India

1. Infrastructure as a main weapon of citizen.
2. Help and Service on Demand.

3. Digital Upliftment of Person.

1. Infrastructure as a main weapon of citizen.
- ❖ Citizen should be given high speed internet connection for access to get service.
- ❖ Every citizen should be given a unique digital identity code which is valid for life long.
- ❖ There should be a common services centre for all people and should be easy to use.
- ❖ E- Banking should be started on mobile phone and every detail should be sent to citizens.
- ❖ Citizen should be provided safe and secure high speed internet.

2. Help and Service on Demand
- ❖ Service should be provided on time.
- ❖ Help should be provided regarding Business.
- ❖ All transaction related to Business should be done on the electronic bases i.e. Banking, E-Commerce.
- ❖ All Business should use electronic way of service like: - Small Payment should be done on electronic bases.

3. Digital Upliftment of Person
- ❖ Resources and Services should be available in Indian Language.
- ❖ Citizen should digitalize their document instead of keeping them in physical form.
- ❖ Student should use E-Learning.
- ❖ Citizen should use E-shopping.

Dreams Of Digital India
1. In India Knowledge is the power to achieve any goal.
2. In India there should not be any barriers to get Information.
3. In India Government should tell about new Laws and should communicate with public.
4. In India government should be straight forward to Public.
5. In India Education, Health facilities should be at their best through E-Hospital Facilities and through E-education.
6. In India there should not be any village left which is not connected to big cities to communicate.
7. In India all people should be familiar with the latest technology.
8. In India farmers should be motivated to use their Rights.
9. In India Public should share their ideas online to uplift the the society.
10. In India all citizens should use mobile app Or E-Banking Services to do work.
11. In India all business man should be motivated to do business online.

Services Provided Under Digital India Campaign

Some of the services rendered by the government after making the Digital India Campaign are:-

1. Digital Locker

Under this, citizen can store their documents like: - PAN Card, Aadhar Card, 10th-12th Mark sheet, etc. digitally in a secure virtual space i.e. DIGILOCKER. It also stores Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI) link of e-documents issued by various issuing authorities. The main motive of this service was to end up the use of physical documentation as it involves lot of paper work and redundancy and not only this, verification of the certificate is also a great challenge for the people. As the documents will be stored in cloud (i.e. in electronic form), it will overcome the above mentioned problems as it will ensure authenticity of the document and these documents will be kept safely, easy to use and share too and this would reduce the use of fake documentation. People can access DIGILOCKER anytime and anywhere from web portal and application. In order to make the E-documents authentic, there is an option of E-Sign as well. CBSE is also providing E-Mark sheet of 10th and 12th Board on DIGILOCKER and students can access it just by entering the User ID and Password that they received on Registered Mobile Number.

2. My Gov. Platform:-

In My Gov. Platform was launched by our Prime Minister Mr. Shri Narendra Modi on July 26, 2014 for citizen engagement to attain SURAJYA. This platform has been implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Department of Electronic and Information Technology (DeitY). According to our honorable Prime Minister, success of Democracy cannot be possible without the participation of citizens. This is a technology driven platform which provides a great opportunity to people who want to contribute in nation building and devote their time and energy. The Prime Minister invites suggestions from the general public which would help to strengthen the Governance and to take India to great heights. This platform provides an opportunity of "Discuss" and "Do" for the citizens. The citizens were given a platform to share their ideas which they think is necessary to improve and uplift society like: - Swachch Bharat or clean Ganga Mission or any other idea that help to improve society can be shared through this platform. The main objective of this platform is to bring qualitative change through participation of citizens.

3. Attendance Gov. In:-

The Prime Minister, Mr. Shri Narendra Modi launched the Biometric Attendance System to keep the track of attendance of central government employees on 7th October 2014. The central government organizations are required to register on the website Attendance.gov.in and after verifying the details of the organization, a sub domain will be provided to the organization. The employee can register themselves using Aadhar Number in order to generate 6 digit Attendance IDs. The employees will be required to enter 6 digit Attendance ID and finger print in the Biometric Machine installed in their organization. This initiative was launched to keep a track of attendance of government employees in real time i.e. number of employee attending the office on

a particular day and number of active devices. The attendance of government employees can be accessed by general public on attendance.gov.in website.

4. E-Sign- Online Digital Signature Service:-

This is a facility provided to Aadhar Card holder to create an Electronic Signature to digitally sign the documents required at any point of time. This service has been provided in order to facilitate paperless economy. This service allows the person to sign the document by the way of online mode. Till now around 1.75 lakh e-sign have been issued by the government of India. E-sign provides several benefits to the Digital Signature Holder like easy and secure way of accessing digital signature anytime and anywhere, it provide legal validity to the documents and it provide secure online transaction as the E-sign is governed by E- Authentication guidelines.

5. E-Hospital:-

E-Hospital is basically an open Health Information Management System (HMIS) which provides multiple hospital services in cloud infrastructure to the citizen. It includes E-Hospital, E-Blood Bank, E- patient Portal. E-Hospital addresses all the functional areas of Hospital ranging from treatment cycle of OPD/ IPD to the administrative and billing/ insurance activities in the hospitals. By the Way of this service, citizens were allowed to pay their Fees and they can easily register for birth and death online and they can get full information regarding the availability of blood in the Hospital. There are more than 150 government hospitals connected through cloud infrastructure under E-Hospitals.

6. Swacch Bharat Mission Mobile App:-

Swacch Bharat Mission was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Shri Narendra Modi on October 02, 2014 to accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage. The nodal Ministry to monitor the progress of Swacch Bharat Mission (Gramin & Urban) is the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation with an aim to achieve SWACCH BHARAT by 2019. The Ministry in Technical Collaboration along with NIC (National Informatics Centre) developed the mSBM Mobile App. The SWACCH APP was launched on December 22, 2015 by Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation to monitor the progress of Swacch Bharat Mission in rural areas. This App can be downloaded from Microsoft App Store on Windows phone and from Google Play Store on Android Phones. Under this people can tell the true position or response regarding it. Through this people have full rights to do complain if they are facing any problem regarding cleanliness.

7. National Scholarship Portal: -

National Scholarship Portal is a one stop solution for students to apply for scholarships launched by Central Government, State Government across the country. This portal facilitates the online application, processing, sanction and disbursement the scholarship to students. As we all know that scholarship process is very time consuming process. So as to overcome this problem National Scholarship Portal has been launched as a Mission Mode Project under National E-Governance Plan. This system aims at providing "SMART" viz. 'Simplified, Mission Oriented,

Accountable, Responsive and Transparent' System for faster and effective disposal of applications for scholarship and transferring the funds into the account of applicants without any involvement of third party. This portal creates transparent database of scholars and provide direct benefit to the applicant. It also bring standardization in the institutions, courses and processing of scholarship at all the levels in India

8. National Optical Fibre Network (Nofn) & Bharat Net:-

NOFN has been launched in order to promote Broadband Revolution in rural areas. The main aim of NOFN is to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country by providing 100Mbps connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats. BharatNet is considered as the nationwide broadband network which helps to interconnect small villages with big cities by providing broadband service ranging from 2Mbps to 20 Mbps. The main aim of BharatNet is to provide E-Banking, E-Health, E-Education, E-Governance, Internet and other online services to the rural India. This project of BharatNet has been funded by 'Universal Service Obligation Fund' (USOF) which was set up to improve telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. The project of BharatNet will be implemented in three phases with the collaboration between Centre and State to lay down Optic Fibre Cable (OFC)

9. E-Kranti- National E-Governance Plan 2.0

E-Kranti or electronic delivery of services is one of the nine pillars of Digital India which aims at "Transforming E-Governance for Transforming Governance" by providing government services electronically to the citizens through integrated system by ensuring efficiency, transparency and reliability of those services at reasonable costs. It also aims at transforming the working of government through technology. E-Kranti ensures electronic delivery of services like technology for education, health, planning, farmers, security, financial inclusion, justice and cyber security. National E-Governance Plan 2.0 (NeGP) focuses to integrate E-Governance initiatives across the country by providing public services closed home to citizens. NeGP includes several Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) and its components which are implemented by central government and state government.

10. Public Wi -Fi Hotspots:-

Public WI-FI Hotspot is provided in cities having over 1 million populations in order to promote Digital Cities.Through Public Wi-Fi Hotspot, Prime Minister tries to improve data connectivity all over the country so that citizens should not face any barriers to get high speed Internet. More than 21 busiest railway stations in India are providing free high speed Wi-Fi service to the commuters and local population in order to facilitate penetration and use of internet and thereby contributing to the development of that specific region. This service is available free of cost for first half an hour and later on an option of online recharge or to use recharge coupon to the user. Railtel is finding out several other possibilities of providing WI-FI at various tourist places and other public places. Recently, RailTel has signed MoU with DMRC to provide WI-FI facility in 5 most busiest metro stations namely Rajiv Chowk, Kashmere Gate, Vishwavidalaya, Central Secretariat and Hauz Khas Station.

10. Pragati Platform:-

"Pro- Active Governance and Timely Implementation" PRAGATI was launched on March 25, 2015 with the aim at bringing E-Transparency and E-Accountability. This platform aimed at addressing the grievances of general public and simultaneously monitoring and reviewing important projects and programmes of the government. PRAGATI integrates three latest technologies viz. Digital Data Management, Video Conferencing and Geo-Spatial Technology and it would make governance in India more efficient and responsive. Under this, PRAGATI DAY is celebrated every fourth Wednesday of the Month where Prime Minister interact with the Secretaries and Chief Secretaries of Government of India to discuss the Public Grievances, On Going Programmes and Pending Projects.

12. Cashless Economy By Demonetization Of Rs. 500 And Rs. 1000 Currency Notes:-

Demonetization is a bold step taken by the Hon'ble Prime Minister i.e Shri Narendra Modi on November 08, 2016 to make India, a cashless economy. Demonetization basically mean that from a fix date the old currency will not be a legal tender i.e. new currency will be issued in place of old currency. The Modi government took this bold step to overcome the problem of black money, corruption, inflation and terrorism. In 2016 on 8 November Bharatya Janta Party under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi government demonetized the note of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 and started new currency note of Rs. 500 and Rs.2000.

How Digitalization Helped In Demonetization:-

As we all known on 8 November 2016 a bold step was taken by the Prime Minister of India i.e Shri Narendra Modi. Since then the old currency notes of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 will not be legal tender. This step majorly affects citizens but due to this step the use of Net Banking, Mobile Wallet and other online mobile app like: - Paytm, Freecharge, MobiKwuik has increased drastically. These apps not only helped only in paying electricity bills, transport bills, but also help us to pay make online payments to the sellers. These apps are beneficial when only if you are registered with these services. There were various initiative taken by government to increase digitalization in India like:- Waive of on transaction charges on use of Debit Cards, No extra charges on online payment till 31 December 2016, payment of expenses through online app without any charges. As per the recent report by Google and Boston Consulting Group (BCG), a global management consulting firm and the world's leading advisor on business strategy, that by 2020 the size of digital payment will increase to $500 Billion which will contribute 15% to the India's GDP. The report also states the increase in the use of digital payment by more than 50% of India's internet users. Recently said by the Billionaire Philanthropist Bill Gates, Co-Founder of Microsoft, "The world will go cashless and India will move quite rapidly to a digital payment economy". In conclusion it can be said that demonetization uplift Digitalization.

Proposed Changes under Digital India by 2019:-

1. More than 2.5 lakh villages will be connected with broadband.
2. In India there will be more than 4, 00,000 public internet point to connect.

3. All the University and Schools will be having the facilities of Wi-Fi.
4. Digital India will create several job opportunities in IT sector.
5. E-Governance and E-Services will be provided to citizens.
6. By 2019 India will be leader in education, health service provider.

Conclusion

As we know that now India is taking small steps to be a powerful Digital Country. These small steps or changes will take India to provide best delivery of services and communication through Digital India. Prime Minister, Mr. Shri Narendra Modi has provided a great platform to use latest technology and how to use latest technology. The availability of technology in rural area has been improved. One of the motives of digital India is to provide all services through electronic mode for example E-Education, E-Health, E-Services, E-banking, etc. Through this program overall development has taken place like: - before we have to go to bank to make payment through cheque, but now we can easily make payment through E banking. So we can say that through this program standard of living has been increased. And we hope that by the end of 2019, India will be fully Digital Country as faith shown by the Prime Minister of India.

So we can say that digital India is an Era Changer Program.

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