Certainly, here's a brief response to the case study-based question for DigiTech Innovations:

## **Mobile App:**

1. Pursuing a Patent: DigiTech Innovations should consider pursuing a patent for their innovative mobile app, particularly if it includes unique and patentable features. This would provide exclusive rights and a competitive edge. However, they should assess the app's novelty, the time and cost involved in patenting, and whether the rapid changes in the mobile app market make it a suitable option.

## **Hardware Device:**

- 1. <u>Patents:</u> For the hardware device, pursuing patents is essential to protect the novel IoT and AI technologies. Patent protection can secure their market position and potential licensing opportunities.
- 2. *Trade Secrets:* Trade secrets can further protect specific proprietary details and components. They should establish rigorous security protocols to safeguard these secrets, especially when collaborating with partners.

## **Software Platform:**

- 1. <u>Copyright:</u> Copyright protection should be employed for the software platform's code. It provides automatic protection and control over the use of the code.
- 2. *Trade Secrets:* To protect key algorithms, data analytics methods, or other unique functionalities, trade secrets should be in place. These elements can be a source of competitive advantage.