India's Digital Transformation

Overview

Ever since 1947, India has achieved great new heights in the field of science, infrastructure and technology. From upgrading its foreign policies, national interests to adopting newer forms of technological innovations, India has truly succeeded in shedding away its colonised identity into a fast-growing free market economy.

Introducing new forms of digital inventions like UPI, India has propelled progressively to show its potential as an emerging leader of the future.

"I see technology as a means to empowerment and as a tool that bridges the distance between hope and opportunity."

- PM Narendra Modi

Enabling every Indian with smartphones and fast-speed internet is one of the objectives of Modi's vision for a complete digital transformation of the country. Besides, the core values of this initiative are low cost-effectiveness, inclusivity and indigenous nature that would bring harmony and opportunities for digital inclusion.

Achieving PM Modi's billion-dollar digitised economy dream should be a source of motivation for all Indian citizens. It could be from acquiring new business ideals of entrepreneurship, developments in the field of blockchain, artificial intelligence, IT sector or connecting remote corners of the country through 5G.

What Makes India a Digital Hotspot?

It would be unfair to celebrate the digital renaissance of India's progress without crediting its dynamic industry providers, tech-savvy innovators, optimistic lawmakers and ambitious citizens.

It is believed that by the end of this decade, the Indian economy will be worth US$5 trillion with US$1 trillion to be credited to the digital economy alone.

So, what makes India an ideal candidate for digital transformation? One can think of many reasons to answer like the technically inclined workforce pool, competitive commercial markets or middle-class expansion. Some more reasons are as follows:

Government Lending Support

Central and state authorities have created a plethora of campaigns, and initiatives with digitisation in mind and a disciplined regulatory approach to allow businesses, and individuals to thrive in all sectors.

Moreover, the Indian government consistently tries to work on all levels to make it accessible for all companies to ideate, invest or set up their operations.

For instance, through public interest initiatives such as Aspirants District Programme, the government aims to spread the wave of technology in order to improve people's participation in Indian economic development. Besides, data-driven laws that are supported by IT norms are made to solidify the progress of the growth potential.

Take a look as follows at some of the notable government-led digital programmes.

Digital India

To empower the common man of India with technology, Modi Led government launched the Digital India programme. It aims to work towards the digital transformation of the country through its various schemes and policies.

For instance, Jan-Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) trinity has made sure that poor people receive their entitled benefits on time. On the other hand, SWAMITVA Yojana is working towards sending out digitised land records to rightful owners.

Just like that, through Digital India, the government carries the herculean attempt to provide internet access to the farthest corner of the country, introducing digital literacy programmes and more.

UPI (Union Paid Interface) Apps

One of the most well-received innovations from the Indian government is the launch of Union Paid Interface (UPI) method of digital payments. This method has not just simplified digital transactions as a whole but also created faith in technology for citizens.

In July 2022, UPI transactions across India crossed US$6 billion which was applauded by hon'ble PM Modi who asserted, "*this indicates collective resolve of Indian citizens to embrace digital technology and make the economy cleaner.*"

Day-to-day operations dealing with direct payment models have been transferred to e-transaction methodology of UPIs, which is a great step towards digital transformation for India.

CoWIN App

Covid-19 struck hard and strong in every corner of the country. The government introduced CoWIN app as a digital platform to support and spread Covid vaccination efforts in India. CoWin has played a major role in the government's attempt of simplifying the vaccine administration process through a single point of enrolment method.

Moreover, as a part of the 2019 service delivery ecosystem that facilitates better information inflow in the healthcare sector, CoWIN has provided crucial lessons to strengthen digital service delivery architecture in the country.

MyGov App

To create more inclusivity amongst citizens of all backgrounds, the government has launched the myGov app. It is a social platform that invited people to connect with the government and contribute towards ideal governance.

As of today, the app has almost 24.5 million registered users. Almost all government-led institutions and organisations use the platform to leverage engagement from users by posting about the latest events, workshops, campaigns, contests etc.

The app thrives on the mantra of citizen engagement and participation by creating feedback portals, editorials, quizzes, and opinion polls for users to bridge the socio-political gap within the nation.

Eager-to-Learn Youth

India has groomed one of the most learned, technologically advanced and curious sets of achievers as its generation. For them, nothing is impossible. Time and again, Youth of India has taken smart measures when the prestige of India's global recognition is at stake.

For instance, thanks to viral trend culture, youth worked tenaciously to spread the Covid vaccine assistance to remote places during the pandemic.

Similarly, for digital transformation, youth can play a pivotal role as their minds and technology are at the same wavelengths, and thus could help assimilate and spread the new technology to other factions effortlessly.

Startups Society

With the Indian startups taking the global platform by storm, it is worthy to note that startups society are driving force of the digital renaissance of the Indian economy.

Today, India has more than 80,000 operational startups, 109 unicorns and almost $274 billion values worth in the global economy.

As startups are instrumental groups between technology and economic development, it's only fair that as an emerging nation with super-fast digital growth, India is carrying forward the discourse to the global level.

Digital Transformation in G20

One of the prime agendas for India as the G20 president is carrying forward the communication of digital technology and transformation in the 2023 summit.

"*The principle of 'data for development will be an integral part of the overall theme of our presidency*."

-PM Narendra Modi

The prime minister's vision for digital transformation with regard to the future is "most remarkable." He believes that with proper use of technology, it can fight decades-long global poverty with massive force.

India hopes to share its UPI success story with the world in G20 to inspire more traction towards the digital upliftment of society as a whole. India's inclusive digital measures can be a powerful motivator to bring governance in scale and speed with the changing times.