

INDIA LEADING THE WORLD IN DIGITAL REVOLUTION: PM

Relevant for: Developmental Issues | Topic: E-governance - applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential incl. Aadhaar & Digital power

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that India was leading the world in the digital revolution as the government's use of digital technology in welfare and governance delivery is changing the lives of the people of the country.

Mr. Modi launched multiple digital portals at the ongoing Digital India Week 2022, including a single sign-in portal *Meri Pehchaan* , Digital India *Bhashini* , Digital India Genesis, and a Chips to Startup (C2S) programme at an event at Gandhinagar.

"Around 10 years ago, we had to stand in queues for everything from getting a birth certificate, pay bills or getting rations from a shop to getting an admission in a school or college. Now, we have eliminated all lines while going online," he said in his speech after opening the Digital Week, 2022.

"The government's Digital India programme has given relief to the poor from corruption and it is working for elimination of middlemen in all fields," he said, adding that the digital technology in the welfare services and schemes have brought in transparency in the system.

Since 2014, more than Rs. 23 lakh crore has been transferred to beneficiaries through direct benefit transfer, or DBT.

With the digitisation of welfare delivery, around Rs. 2.23 lakh crore could be saved from going into wrong hands or middlemen, Mr. Modi said.

He emphasised the need to adopt technology or else remain backward as happened during the third Industrial Revolution when the country remained far behind other nations.

During his speech, he mentioned digital platforms such as Aadhaar, UPI, CoWIN and Digilocker that have contributed to "ease of living" as citizens get services online without going to the government offices and approaching middlemen.

"All programmes launched in Gandhinagar are going to strengthen ease-of-doing business and ease of living. They will give a fillip to India's start-up ecosystem. India can proudly claim that it is not just part of the Industry 4.0 Revolution but is actually leading it," Mr. Modi said after inaugurating numerous digital portals for various services.

He added that the government had launched a project of digital mapping of rural properties using drones and other such devices.

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