

VISION VIKSIT BHARAT 2047: CONTRIBUTION AND INITIATIVES OF DIGITAL INDIA FOR EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN

Vol – 1

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DIGITAL INDIA AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

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Abstract

The Digital India initiative, launched by the Government of India, aims to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.¹ This research paper explores the multifaceted relationship between Digital India and women empowerment, examining how increased access to technology, digital literacy, and online platforms contribute to women's social, economic, and political advancement. The paper analyzes programs and initiatives under Digital India benefiting women, acknowledging challenges and barriers to ensure inclusive digital empowerment.

Keywords: Digital India, Women Empowerment, Digital Literacy, Digital Divide, Technology Access, Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, ICTs, Gender Equality, India.

Introduction

Women empowerment is crucial for socio-economic development, enabling women to exercise rights, make informed choices, and fully participate in all life spheres. Technology has emerged as a powerful empowerment tool, offering unprecedented access to information, education, employment, and social networks. The Digital India initiative (2015) has accelerated India's digitalization, focusing on improved infrastructure, digital literacy, and online government services. This transformation has profound implications for women, who often face barriers to traditional resources and opportunities.

This paper examines the link between Digital India and women empowerment, focusing on:

1. **Digital Inclusion and Access:** Bridging the digital divide and providing women with technology and internet connectivity.
2. **Digital Literacy and Skills:** Equipping women with skills to navigate the digital world and utilize technology.
3. **Economic Empowerment:** Creating new economic opportunities for women entrepreneurs and workers through digital platforms.
4. **Social and Political Empowerment:** Enhancing women's access to information, education, healthcare, and participation in decision-making.