

Digital Mission to transform India as Digitally driven powerhouse economy

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Digital empowerment of citizen through Digital India is paramount of importance and need of the hour to transform Rural India: Shri P P Choudhary, MoS for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology, GoI Government's mission on Digital India will transform the country as digitally driven powerhouse economy said by Shri P P Choudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology, GoI while inaugurating the CII Telecom Convergence Summit held in New Delhi today. He said that the vision of the digital India seek to empower every citizen at the nook and corner of the country. Government has already laid the strong foundation for Digital infrastructure, digital governance & Services and Digital empowerment for effective delivery of public services in a transparent manner said by the Minister. He also mentioned that India has the advantage of skilled manpower and young population in large to contribute towards the digital economy. He further added that India exports 60% of the IT Services to the world which indicates the strength of knowledge and skilled manpower that exists in our country. He added that the Government of India has taken various effective steps to create a conducive environment for ease of doing business. He added that India is the fastest growing economy which may exceed upto double digit growth through digital India mission in near future. He said that manufacturing is one the facet of the Digital India today and R&D, Innovation is part of the Digital tomorrow and we have to maintain the balance between Digital today and Digital tomorrow. In his opening remarks, Mr Umang Das Conference Chairman and Chairman of CII National Sub-Committee on Telecom Infrastructure said that India has to spur Digital India mission utilizing the advantage of the Digital revolution. He mentioned that Telecommunications transforming our society and in many instances, there are no hard set rules for the new digital platforms, tools and lifecycle in which they live. He opined that Investment in developing Digital Infrastructure is crucial. He further said that as the telecommunications sector turns to a new growth agenda, mobile money services are becoming more important than ever. He also said that the acceleration of mobile remittance services alongside new mobile payments highlights the opportunities for the mobile phone to redefine the movement of money. Mr Amit Sharma, Executive Vice President and President, Asia, American Tower Corporation said that the scale of Digital revolution intended in India is unmatched. Innovative models for service delivery and improvements is required for faster project execution. He said that deployment of telecom tower should be enhanced easing clearances, levy and fee. Present at the summit Mr Sanjay Kaul, Managing Director, India & SAARC, Cisco Systems said that there lies a long-term opportunity in contributing to the evolving ecosystem in the Digital India initiatives. He added that we need to offer business models, revenue models and pricing models to operators in order to speed up the deployment of such initiatives. He mentioned that Mr P Balaji, Director-Regulatory, External Affairs & CSR, Vodafone said that Digital India provides a comprehensive vision and execution charter for digital empowerment of citizens. He added that Enabling large scale digital infrastructure deployment at the grass root level. He opined that Innovative approaches to creating viable business models for the sector. The Spokesperson from Deloitte - the Knowledge Partner of the summit said that the digital revolution in making in India is based on three important pillars. First, the digital infrastructure including the digital KYC, that is, through Aadhaar card. Second, the mobile phone and third, is the bank account. Much more is to come in the future with IOT, Machine To Machine, AI, robotics, drones, etc. riding on the broadband highway which will create a great multiplier for the GDP growth, bring efficiencies in all sectors like energy, transportation, water management, manufacturing, agriculture, etc.

Indeed, India is on the cusp of a very big digital revolution. It is not difficult to believe that Digital India will create a trillion dollar business opportunity. The summit marked the presence of Speaker from ISRO, C-DOT, Railtel, Videocon Telecommunications, Telenor Ericsson, Hughes, Datawind and others. The summit was attended by over 175 participants from telecom sector.

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