



TRANSFORMATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY IN CONTEXT TO INDIAN SOCIETY

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Abstract

India, the world's second most populous democracy, officially titled the Republic of India, divided into thousands of socially exclusive castes and religious, so we can say Indian culture as diverse culture. More than 80 percent of people is follows Hinduism. The rest 20% of followers are of Buddhism, Jainism, Islam, Sikhism, Christianity and Parsi. There are, no doubt, different factions, sections and sub-section but basically we all believe in the theory of Dharma and Karma, The theory of rebirth, purification of soul, salvation, Heaven and Hell.

India is a country where more than 70 percent of people lives in villages and rest 30 percent lives in town or big cities. So, there are huge differences between village and town societies.

This paper analyses transformation of Indian society through technology.

Key words: Transformation, Society, Culture, Technology



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Introduction

Indian society is a complex mix of diverse cultures, people, beliefs and languages which may have come from anywhere but now is a part of this vast country. This complexity and richness gives Indian society a unique appearance of a very vibrant and colourful cultural country. But the very same complexity brings with itself complex nature of social problems and issues. In fact every society of the world has their social issues unique to their society. So does Indian society. Indian society is very rooted in religious beliefs; there are people of different religious beliefs such as Hindus, Muslims, Jains, Sikhs, Parsis etc. These all adds to the socio-cultural varieties of the country. India's social problems are also rooted in the religious practices and beliefs of it people. Almost all forms of social issues and problems find their origin in the religious and cultural practices of the people of India. These social problems are developed in a long period of times and are still continuing in one form or other.

Some of the prevalent social issues are as following;

Poverty is a widespread condition in India. Since Independence, poverty is a prevalent concern. It is the twenty-first century and poverty still is a persistent menace in the country. India happens to be country wherein the disparities between the haves and the have-nots are extremely wide. It needs to be taken into account that although the economy has shown some visible signs of progress in the last two decades, this progress been uneven across various sectors or areas.

Illiteracy is a condition which becomes a blot on the development of nation. India possesses the largest illiterate population. Illiteracy in India is a problem which has complex dimensions attached to it. Illiteracy in India is more or less concerned with different forms of disparities that exist in the country. There are gender imbalances, income imbalances, state imbalances, caste imbalances, technological barriers which shape the literacy rates that exist in the country.

According to the United Nations report, India has the second highest number of child marriages. Marriage is considered to be a sacred union between two mature and consenting individuals who are ready to accept each other and share responsibilities for a lifetime. With respect to this context, child marriages happen to be an unsound institution. Child marriage mars the innocence of childhood.

Starvation is a condition characterised by the deficiency in calorie energy intake and is a serious form of malnutrition which ultimately leads to death if not taken care about. Historically, starvation has been constant across various human cultures apart from India. Starvation can take place in a country due to many reasons like war, famine, the disparities between the rich and the poor and so on. Malnutrition conditions like kwashiorkor and marasmus can also develop into serious causes of starvation.

Child labour typically means the employment of children in any work with or without payment. Child labour is not only limited to India, it happens to be a global phenomenon. As far as India is concerned, the issue is a vicious one as children in India have historically been helping parents at their farms and other primitive activities. Over population, illiteracy, poverty, debt trap are some of the common causes which are instrumental in this issue. Overburdened, debt-trapped parents fail to understand the importance of a normal childhood under the pressures of their own troubles and thus it leads to the poor emotional and mental balance of a child's brain which is not prepared to undertake rigorous field or domestic tasks. From 1983 till 2011, Unemployment rates in India averaged 9 percent reaching an all-time high of 9.4 percent in December 2010 and a record low of 3.8 Percent in December 2011. In

India, the unemployment rate measures the number of people actively looking for a job as a percentage of the labour force. The number of unemployed persons in India decreased to 39963 thousand in 2009 from 39974 thousand in 2007. Unemployed persons in India and Kenya averaged 36933 thousand from 1985 until 2009, reaching an all-time high of 41750 thousand in 2001 and a record low of 24861 thousand in 1985. In India, unemployed persons are individuals who are without a job and actively seeking to work.

Transformation society through technology

Science and Technology have always been an integral part of Indian culture. Natural philosophy, as it was termed in those ancient times, was pursued vigorously at institutions of higher learning. The Indian Renaissance, which coincided with our independence struggle, at the dawn of 1900 witnessed great strides made by Indian scientists. This innate ability to perform creatively in science came to be backed with an institutional setup and strong state support after the country's independence in 1947. Since then, the Government of India has spared no effort to establish a modern S&T infrastructure in the country. The Department of Science and Technology plays a pivotal role in promotion of science and technology in the country.

We are living in twenty first century, the century of new technologies and hi-tech. But nowadays we cannot do anything without help of these technologies and not so often think what will happen, if all these devices will disappear as if they didn't exist at all. Understanding the importance of technology is a must for young as well as senior citizens. With technology being such a massive part of our lives, we need to know more. Telling the truth we do not imagine ourselves without personal computer, internet, mobile phone, oven, washing machine, fridge, mp-3 player, TV set and so on. It becomes the end of the world, when one forgot his mobile phone at home or when the portative personal computer suddenly become out of order. Yes, we got accustomed with the new technologies, different devices and gadgets and now we are gradually losing our ability to do something by ourselves without machines. Of course, it has a harmful influence that the human in near future will not be able to do anything without machines, but on the other hand it has a very good and important purpose. The early human life was very hard and full of danger, and according to their development people began to make some useful things, with the help of which they could afford themselves a living minimum as to make a meal for themselves and to stay alive. After long time from these times, modern people invented and created the mechanisms and technologies which made their life easier and more pleasant. It is very good to my mind that a man uses his brain and creates, then makes some important and needful things for himself.

For example, home devices. I think, they take a first place of using technologies pyramid. Now with an automatic washing machine we cannot imagine that in past times we washed a mountain of clothes by our hands, also we cannot imagine any modern home without a TV set, and there is no one without a mobile phone device. Nowadays almost all in the world is based in computer and other new high technologies. So I am sure, that the importance of technology in society is very big and meaningful. To my mind, one does not see some bad things or aspects in the way that the people use things, which they created to make their life easier. And of course, technologies and sciences will develop day after day, more and more new technologies will be created. And this is very good, because it is really help to people.

India has progressed remarkably in the last 65 years of its independence on many fronts; it has not only managed to rise out of an oppressed era but has emerged as a power to reckon with - so much that today no multinational story is complete without an India angle. However, pressures of a growing population that is teetering at 1.7 billion are immense. A large part of our population remains below the poverty line, living in a very different world compared to the middle and upper classes of our country. Urban growth is spawning a 'chain-reaction growth' across classes and industries. With a better smarter urban growth, we can solve some of the big problems to move ahead in a more focused manner. The answer to most of our national challenges lies in better governance and infrastructure that will allow us to leapfrog to a better developed era. The world around us is undergoing a major transition. For the first time in human history majority of the people in the world live in urban areas. Over the next five years, some 500 million people will be added to the world's cities. The need for all these cities to sustainably balance social, economic, and environmental resources is more critical than ever before.

As communities develop and grow, they struggle with a variety of complex priorities such as safety and security, efficient delivery of government services, education, and healthcare. I believe that technology can provide access to resources that help spur economic, social and environmental sustainability, and enhance the quality of life for its constituents

Government visionaries and their private sector community partners can take a sustainable management approach to help ensure thriving communities. By providing the network as a highly secure and resilient service delivery platform, you can share information and collaborate across a community's ecosystem of government agencies and private sector partners to facilitate utilities planning, transportation systems enhancements, and health and government social services needs.

In a largely populated country like India, the internet can definitely be an efficient way for

the government to provide services to citizens, thus helping people go about their business. This can fundamentally change peoples' lives - giving them access to national, regional and global markets; creating more jobs; and helping a country become more competitive.

The true benefits of technology are in its application, and if an effective deployment of a network that enables academic information to flow to rural areas brought millions of children access to better education, we should be able to improve our scores on literacy and employability

Technology has been the forefront of India's recent economic resurgence and in technology lies the answer to many of our challenges as we become a Developed India.

Recent efforts of Indian government

Digital India is an initiative by the Government of India to ensure that Government services are made available to citizens electronically by improving online infrastructure and by increasing Internet connectivity. It was launched on 1 July 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The initiative includes plans to connect *rural* areas with high-speed internet networks. Digital India has three core components. These include.

- The creation of digital infrastructure
- Delivering services digitally
- Digital literacy

A two-way platform will be created where the service providers and the consumers will benefit. The scheme will be monitored and administrated by the Digital India Advisory group which will be chaired by the Ministry of Communications and IT. It will be an inter-Ministerial initiative where all ministries and departments will offer their own services to the public: Healthcare, Education, Judicial, etc. The Public-private partnership model will be adopted selectively. In addition; there are plans to restructure the National Informatics Centre. This project is one among the top priority projects of the Modi Administration.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana –

Under the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA) Bank is a new institution being set up by Government of India for development and refinancing activities relating to micro units. It was announced by the Finance Minister while presenting the Union Budget for FY 2016. The purpose of MUDRA is to provide funding to the non corporate small business sector.

Under the scheme, PradhanMantriMudraYojana three categories of interventions has been named which includes

1. **Shishu:** - Loan up to ₹50,000 (US\$750)
2. **Kishore:** - Loan ranging from ₹50,000 (US\$750) to ₹5 lakh (US\$7,500)
3. **Tarun:** - Loan above ₹5 lakh (US\$7,500) and below ₹10 lakh (US\$15,000)

These three categories will signify the growth; development and funding needs of the beneficiaries as well as it will assure the loan amount to be allotted by

Skill India is an initiative of the Government of India. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 16 July 2015 with an aim to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022. The initiatives include National Skill Development Mission, National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) scheme and the Skill Loan scheme.

UK will also be contributing to this programme. Virtual partnerships will be initiated at the school level to enable young people of either country to experience the school system of the other country and develop an understanding of the culture, traditions and social and family systems.

Make in India is an initiative of the Government of India to encourage multinational, as well as domestic, companies to manufacture their products in India. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25 September 2014. India would emerge, after initiation of the program in 2015, as the top destination globally for foreign direct investment, surpassing China as well as the United States.

The major objective behind the initiative is to focus on job creation and skill enhancement in twenty-five sectors of the economy. The initiative also aims at high quality standards and minimising the impact on the environment. The initiative hopes to attract capital and technological investment in India.

Swabhimaan is a campaign of the Government of India which aims to bring banking services to large rural areas. It was launched by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, the Chairperson of the United Progressive Alliance party in the presence of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the Union Finance Minister and Shri Namo Narain Meena, the Union Minister of State for Finance on February 10, 2011. This campaign is to be operated by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to bring banking within the reach of the masses of the Indian population.

An initiative which seeks better financial inclusion within India will strive for rolling out banking services in 20,000 villages without banking services with a population of 2000 by March 2012 as to improve participation of rural folks in different plans launched by

government for them. Under this plan, Banks will select business correspondents (bank saathi). They will act as intermediaries between the rural people and the banks. The government has targeted to cover at least 74,000 new habitations with a population of 2,000 and above and open at least 50 million new accounts by March 2012

The government of India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a vision of developing 100 smart cities as satellite towns of larger cities and by modernizing the existing mid-sized cities.

The government plans to identify 20 smart cities in 2015, 40 in 2016 and another 40 in 2017. The 100 potential smart cities nominated by all the states and union territories based on Stage 1 criteria will prepare smart city plans which will be evaluated in stage 2 of the competition for prioritizing cities for financing. In the first round of this stage, 20 top scorers will be chosen for financing during this financial year. The remaining will be asked to make up the deficiencies identified by the Apex Committee in the Ministry of Urban Development for participation in the next two rounds of competition. 40 cities each will be selected for financing during the next rounds of competition.

Smart cities are seen as a key to India's economic and social growth

Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (IPA: Pradhān Mantrī Jana Dhan Yōjanā) (Hindi: English: Prime Minister's People Money Scheme) (PMJDY) is National Mission for Financial Inclusion to ensure access to financial services, namely Banking Savings & Deposit Accounts, Remittance, Credit, Insurance, Pension in an affordable manner. This inclusion campaign was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 August 2014. He had announced this scheme on his first Independence Day speech on 15 August 2014.

Run by Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, on the inauguration day, 1.5 Crore (15 million) bank accounts were opened under this scheme. Guinness World Records Recognises the Achievements made under PMJDY, Guinness World Records Certificate says "The most bank accounts opened in 1 week as a part of financial inclusion campaign is 18,096,130 and was achieved by Banks in India from 23 to 29 August 2014". By 13 January 2016, over 20 crore (200 million) bank accounts were opened and ₹301.08 billion (US\$4.5 billion) were deposited under the scheme

Conclusion

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partners to facilitate utilities planning, transportation systems enhancements, and health and government social services needs.

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