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Importance of Digital literacy

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Abstract:

This research paper investigates the essential role of digital literacy in contemporary India, emphasizing its significance amidst rapid modernization and globalization. This paper highlights government initiatives such as the 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan Yojana' and the 'National Digital Literacy Mission' (NDLM) as pivotal efforts to bridge the urban-rural digital divide. The paper explores the multifaceted challenges faced in promoting digital literacy, including socio-economic disparities, infrastructural deficits, gender inequality, linguistic barriers, and the persistent gap in general literacy.

Drawing on case studies and government training programs, the paper demonstrates how digital literacy not only enhances individual and social skills, but also empowers employment and socio-economic development, especially in rural areas. Digital literacy programs tailored to regional and demographic needs are important for empowering the population and advancing community development in India.

Keywords: Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan Yojana, Modernisation, Globalisation, National Digital Literacy Mission, Gender Inequality, Community Empowerment, Information and Communication Technology.

Introduction:

Digital literacy is a need of modernisation. Now globalisation covered each and every country. Digital literacy is useful at personal as well as social level. Government is trying for implementing the digital skills among the people through the various technical trainings. Spread of digital literacy is depending upon the literacy rate of the people. Now in these days also we are not fully literate. Digital literacy is the second stage of the literacy. There are so many challenges for the digital literacy. Socio-economic factors play a vital role in the spread of literacy. Digital literacy concept is applicable to the educated people. Our vast and illiterate population is the main obstacle in digital literacy.

In rural area, majority population is away from the digital literacy because of Internet and

electricity. Absence of communication technology keeps far away to the rural population from the digital literacy. In rural India, there is a need of infrastructural new Communication Technology. Socio and economic factors are also important. There is a too much difference between Urban and Rural literacy. Urban digital literacy is a strong because of the technical infrastructural foundation and rural digital literacy is a poor due to the financial and geographical elements. Electricity is important for the digital literacy, but majority villages are away from the electricity. We cannot use the various devices without the electricity. Social gender inequality is also main obstacle in rural area because women are not allowed to use the digital devices.

Our government started the 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan Yojana and National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM)' for achieving the success of digital literacy. Its intention is to impart the digital skills among the people. Government is organising the training to create the awareness about the digital literacy. Frequently orientation through the experts is creating a good atmosphere in the rural society. These trainings are also help helpful for the rural people for obtaining jobs. Imparting digital skills and knowledge is the main activity of the government through the trainings. Continuous efforts are essential to impart the digital literacy among the rural people. These innovative strategies achieved the success in digital literacy. There are so many challenges before us i.e. large population, gender discrimination, geographical obstacles, financial problems, absence of basic literacy and use of technology, Cultural and Communal barriers. Only literate society can increase the growth of digital literacy.

Electricity problem is also the main obstacle in rural area for the implementation of digital literacy. General literacy also plays a vital role in digital literacy. Local languages and illiteracy control the speed of digital literacy. In our country, there are so many languages speak in each and every state. So linguistic problem is complexity for us. Socio-economic factors are related particularly to the rural society. Cultural and gender discrimination is also important factor for digital literacy. Slow internet is also main problem in rural India. Due to the poverty majority people cannot buy the mobile and internet facility. There is a too much gap between urban and rural India in relation with digital literacy. Traditions impose the restriction of so many matters to the women. So digital awareness is essential in rural area.

Digital literacy creates the job opportunity among the youths. It improves the personal and social skill which is helpful for the development process. Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan Yojana is started by the central government to literate the 60 million rural people. This programme is related to digital literacy. After acquiring the skill of digital literacy, it would be helpful to achieve the job. This training programme is related to the digital and financial literacy. Which would be helpful for personal financial activities. It also helps to achieve the government job. Digital literacy enables to handle the personal digital matter and improves the lifestyle. Digital

literacy increases the quality of life.

Digital literacy is a child of modernisation and globalisation. In another words it is a programme of community development. It is a matter of social and economic development. Digital literacy transfers the innovation to the society. This is a knowledge acquisition process which makes the all-round development of the people. Digital literacy is a big investment for rural population it would give the benefit of socio-economic development and employment opportunities. Training of digital literacy is a government supported programme. To train to rural people is a difficult matter due to diverse population.

Information and Communication Technology literacy programme is launched by e-government services India limited. It trains people personally and evaluates the effect of training on their accuracy. Handling accurate digital equipment is the aim of this movement. This training programme includes health awareness and comprehensive approaches. Local language is useful to train the people effectively.

Conclusion:

In short digital literacy is essential in India for empowering the knowledge and skill of Indian people to make rural people digitally literate. Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan Yojana and National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM) marked the role of the government for the better implementation of digital literacy.

Digital literacy is connected to the personal as well as social. It is also helpful for the rural economy.

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