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### Effect of Digital India on women: Allahabad and Faizabad District

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#### Abstract

This study was undertaken with a view to ascertain “Effect of Digital India on women: Allahabad and Faizabad district”. The study was conducted on selected three villages in Chaka block of Allahabad district i.e. Dandi, Mahewa and Cheoki and three villages in Purabazar block of Faizabad district i.e. Devkali, Sajahpur and Ranupali. A total number of 150 respondents were selected randomly for the present study comprising of 75 from Allahabad district and 75 from Faizabad district in which twenty five samples from each village were selected by using stratified random sampling techniques. On the basis with the objectives to assess the effect of Digital India scheme in Allahabad and Faizabad district, to find out the challenges faced in the implementation and to compare the effect of digital India on both district. Self-prepared interview schedule for Digital India scheme which pertaining to objectives set forth for the research was used for the survey. The schedule was including the aspects which lead to fulfill the objective of the study. The statistical methods used were Arithmetic mean and standard deviation and t-test. The study revealed a majority of the respondent from Allahabad and Faizabad district were following under the good category of scoring in Digital India scheme. Poor internet networking and functional security were the major problem for use of Digital India scheme. Maximum respondent were facing challenges while operating digital gadgets like android mobile phone, tablet and laptop and affected by economically and some are facing electricity and internet network problem etc in Digital India scheme.

**Keywords:** Digital India, Women

#### Introduction

Today, we cannot imagine our life without technology. In the twenty-first century, one of the most important technology is the power of the digitization. Digital India is a programme to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy (Midha, 2016) <sup>[5]</sup>. Our Prime minister wanted it to make digital. Its dream of every Indian that nation should become powerful in all aspect. This is the dream of first person of India i.e. Mr. Narendra Modi and all citizen of nation. Its platform for the growth and development of nation and its people digitally. However the goal is still far away since most of the nine pillars of digital India mission are facing serious challenges in implementation. In fact we all should be mentally prepared for the change and be ready to face the challenges in implementing this policy, only then it would be possible to make this vision a reality. Digital India is an initiative of Government of India to integrate the government departments and the people of India. It aims at ensuring the government services are made available to citizens electronically by reducing paperwork. Digital India has three core components. These include- The creation of digital infrastructure, Delivering services digitally and Digital literacy (Kedar, 2015) <sup>[4]</sup>. This plan really ensures the growth and development in India especially in the rural areas by connecting rural regions and remote villages with high-speed internet services. Citizens of digital India may improve their knowledge and skill level after getting covered under the umbrella of internet. It is an ambitious project which will benefit everyone especially villagers who travel long distance and waste time and money in doing paper works for various reasons (Gupta *et al.*, 2015) <sup>[3]</sup>. The plan also aims to link all the Panchayats in the country and bring them on a single network. The employment opportunities and opportunities to grow the economy as a whole through initiatives taken by the people will be almost endless, thanks to the large population.

Digital India is definitely a step in the right direction, so long as the internet remains a place where opinions and art can be expressed freely and by everyone, equally.

### Objectives

1. To assess the effect of Digital India scheme in Allahabad and Faizabad Districts.
2. To find out the challenges faced by women in both district.

### Methods and Materials

The present study was conducted in *Purbazar* block of Faizabad District and Chaka block of Allahabad District of Uttar Pradesh. A total number of 150 respondents was selected randomly for the present study comprising of 75

from Allahabad district and 75 from Faizabad district in which three major villages *Devkali*, *Sajahpur* and *Ranupali* of *Purbazar* block of Faizabad District and *Dandi*, *Mahewa* and *Cheoki* of *chaka* block of Allahabad District were selected purposively for the study. Twenty five samples from each village were selected by using stratified random sampling techniques. Pre-structured questionnaire for Digital India scheme which pertaining to objectives set forth for the research was used for the survey. The questionnaire was including the aspects which lead to fulfill the objective of the study. The statistical methods used were Arithmetic mean and standard deviation, t-test.

### Results and Discussion

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their personal profile

| S. No | Variables      | Category   | n<br>(75)<br>Ald | %     | n<br>(75)<br>Fzd | %     | n<br>(150)<br>Total | %     |
|-------|----------------|------------|------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 1     | Age            | 30 – 35    | 17               | 22.66 | 21               | 28.00 | 38                  | 25.33 |
|       |                | 36 - 45    | 19               | 25.33 | 18               | 24.00 | 37                  | 24.66 |
|       |                | 46 - 55    | 21               | 28.00 | 18               | 24.00 | 39                  | 26.00 |
|       |                | 56 – 60    | 18               | 24.00 | 18               | 24.00 | 36                  | 24.00 |
| 2     | Education      | B.A        | 52               | 69.33 | 61               | 81.33 | 113                 | 75.33 |
|       |                | B.Sc       | 15               | 20.00 | 8                | 10.66 | 23                  | 15.33 |
|       |                | B.tech     | 8                | 10.66 | 6                | 08.00 | 14                  | 09.33 |
| 3     | Religion       | Hindu      | 30               | 40    | 48               | 64    | 78                  | 52    |
|       |                | Muslim     | 28               | 37.33 | 23               | 30.66 | 51                  | 34    |
|       |                | Christian  | 17               | 22.66 | 4                | 5.33  | 21                  | 14    |
| 4     | Caste          | General    | 31               | 41.33 | 32               | 42.66 | 63                  | 42.00 |
|       |                | OBC        | 22               | 29.33 | 29               | 38.66 | 51                  | 34.00 |
|       |                | SC         | 17               | 22.66 | 9                | 12.00 | 26                  | 17.33 |
|       |                | ST         | 5                | 06.66 | 5                | 06.66 | 10                  | 06.66 |
| 5     | Occupation     | Govt.      | 15               | 20    | 8                | 10.66 | 23                  | 15.33 |
|       |                | Business   | 21               | 28    | 31               | 41.33 | 52                  | 34.66 |
|       |                | Unemployed | 36               | 48    | 36               | 48.00 | 72                  | 48.00 |
| 6     | Marital status | Married    | 54               | 72.00 | 6                | 8     | 60                  | 40.00 |
|       |                | Unmarried  | 19               | 25.33 | 69               | 92    | 88                  | 58.66 |
|       |                | Divorced   | 2                | 02.66 | -                | 0     | -                   | 0     |
| 7     | Type of family | Nuclear    | 16               | 21.33 | 2                | 02.66 | 18                  | 12.00 |
|       |                | Joint      | 36               | 48.00 | 69               | 92.00 | 105                 | 70.00 |
|       |                | Extended   | 23               | 30.66 | 4                | 05.33 | 27                  | 18.00 |

T= Total, %= Percentage, n= Respondents

Table 1 reveals that maximum percentage of the respondents i.e. (24.33%) were found in young age group followed by young middle (24.66%) and middle aged (26.00%) and small aged (24.00%) respectively, 75.33 percent of the respondent were able to understand their rights only and were educated till graduation level with arts while 15.33 percent of the respondents were educated with science stream. Whereas only 9.33 percent of the respondent went to educated with B.tech. The groups of the respondents were divided into four groups, majority of the respondent i.e. 52.00 percent were Hindu, 34.00 percent of the respondents were Muslim and 14.00 percent of the respondents were Christians. A maximum of the respondents i.e. 42.00 percent belonged to general caste while about 34.00 percent of the respondents belonged to

other backward class category and 17.33 percent of the respondents belonged to schedule caste whereas 06.00 percent respondents were belonged to schedule tribe category, 4.5 15.33 percent did government service and 34.66 percent of respondent's family members were business man. Whereas 48.00 percent respondents were unemployed and they did farming and labour work. Table 1 also depicts that a maximum of 40.00 percent of the respondents were married and 58.66 percent of the respondents were unmarried whereas no one was divorced with her husband. A maximum of 70 percent respondent belonged to joint family followed by 18 percent and 12 percent to extended family and nuclear family respectively.

**Table 2:** Distribution of Allahabad women according to the dimensions of Digital India scheme

| S. No | Dimensions of Digital India Scheme      | Categories         | Good |       | Average |       | Poor |       |
|-------|---|--------------------|------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
|       |   |                    | F    | P     | F       | P     | F    | P     |
| 1.    | Challenges on People Lifestyle          | a. Good (55-41)    | 45   | 60    | 20      | 26.66 | 10   | 13.33 |
|       |   | b. Average (40-26) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (25-11)    |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 2.    | Public Internet Access                  | a. Good (55-41)    | 45   | 60    | 25      | 33.33 | 05   | 06.66 |
|       |   | b. Average (40-26) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (25-11)    |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 3.    | E-Governance                            | a. Good (40-30)    | 36   | 48    | 33      | 44    | 06   | 08    |
|       |   | b. Average (29-19) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (18-8)     |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 4.    | E-Kranti                                | a. Good (40-30)    | 28   | 37.33 | 39      | 52    | 08   | 10.66 |
|       |   | b. Average (29-19) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (18-8)     |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 5.    | Broadband Highway                       | a. Good (20-16)    | 50   | 66.66 | 10      | 13.33 | 15   | 20    |
|       |   | b. Average (15-10) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (9-4)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 6.    | Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity | a. Good (15-12)    | 20   | 26.66 | 40      | 53.33 | 15   | 20    |
|       |   | b. Average (11-8)  |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (7-3)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 7.    | Early Harvest Program                   | a. Good (15-12)    | 41   | 54.66 | 22      | 29.33 | 12   | 16    |
|       |   | b. Average (11-8)  |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (7-3)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |

F= Frequency, P= Percentage

The table 2 indicates 60 percent Allahabad women were at good level in challenges on people lifestyle as far as their response regarding Digital India scheme is followed by 26.66 percent women having average in challenges on people lifestyle whereas 13.33 percent women have poor response regarding challenges on people lifestyle, 60 percent women had good access public internet and 33.33 percent women were found average range in public internet access while 6.66 percent women were poor in public internet access as well as 48 percent women had good knowledge of e-Governance and 44 percent women had average knowledge of e-Governance whereas 8 percent women had poor knowledge of e-Governance, 52 percent women had good knowledge in e-Kranti, 37.33 percent women had average knowledge in e-Kranti whereas 10.66 percent were poor in the uses of e-Kranti facilities of Digital India scheme. A maximum of 66.66 percent women were good users of broadband highway whereas 15 percent women were average in the uses of broadband highway followed by 20 percent women who are

poor in the uses of broadband highway. Finding of the study coincides with the study conducted by Narang (2017) <sup>[6]</sup> focused on providing broadband services in all villages of the country, tele-medicine and mobile healthcare services and making the governance more participative, 53.33 percent women were average in uses of universal access to mobile connectivity; they are connected with social sites and with different type of mobile application for daily uses whereas 26.66 percent and 20 percent women were good and poor in uses of universal access to mobile connectivity respectively. As far as early harvest program is concerned it is seen that a maximum of 54.66 percent women were good, 29.33 percent women were average while 16 percent poor were at its uses. Most of the women were using early harvest program of Digital India scheme. The study conducted by Dua (2017) <sup>[2]</sup> highlighted the Wi-Fi facilities and Biometric Attendance System were installed in all government offices where recording of attendance are made online, the people are using these facilities in most of the cities and villages.

**Table 3:** Distribution of Faizabad women according to the dimensions of Digital India scheme

| S. No | Dimensions of Digital India Scheme      | Categories         | Good |       | Average |       | Poor |       |
|-------|---|--------------------|------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
|       |   |                    | F    | P     | F       | P     | F    | P     |
| 1.    | Challenges on People Lifestyle          | a. Good (55-41)    | 38   | 50.66 | 25      | 33.33 | 12   | 16    |
|       |   | b. Average (40-26) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (25-11)    |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 2.    | Public Internet Access                  | a. Good (55-41)    | 35   | 46.66 | 39      | 52    | 01   | 1.33  |
|       |   | b. Average (40-26) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (25-11)    |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 3.    | e-Governance                            | a. Good (40-30)    | 27   | 36    | 32      | 42.66 | 16   | 21.33 |
|       |   | b. Average (29-19) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (18-8)     |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 4.    | e-Kranti                                | a. Good (40-30)    | 41   | 54.66 | 29      | 38.66 | 05   | 6.66  |
|       |   | b. Average (29-19) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (18-8)     |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 5.    | Broadband Highway                       | a. Good (20-16)    | 29   | 38.66 | 38      | 50.66 | 08   | 10.66 |
|       |   | b. Average (15-10) |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (9-4)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 6.    | Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity | a. Good (15-12)    | 21   | 28    | 42      | 56    | 12   | 16    |
|       |   | b. Average (11-8)  |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (7-3)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |
| 7.    | Early Harvest Program                   | a. Good (15-12)    | 36   | 48    | 24      | 32    | 15   | 20    |
|       |   | b. Average (11-8)  |      |       |         |       |      |       |
|       |   | c. Poor (7-3)      |      |       |         |       |      |       |

F= Frequency, P= Percentage

The table 3 indicates 50.66 percent gave good response in challenges on people's lifestyle and 33.33 percent women had average response in this while 16 percent women gave poor response in challenges on people's lifestyle. The table also indicates that 52 percent women were good in public internet access, these women were using internet for online shopping, online payment whereas 46.66 percent women were average in public internet access and only 1.33 percent women were poor in public internet access, these women rarely access internet. As far as e-Governance is concerned it is seen that 42.66 percent women were average in uses of e-Governance as well as 36 percent women were good in uses of e-Governance whereas only 21.33 percent were poor in uses of e-Governance. Finding of the study coincides with the study conducted by Dua (2017) [2] which focused on government services are more effective in urban area. There would be integration of services and platform- Payment Gateway, Mobile services and other services used by people, 54.66

percent women were good having in e-Kranti followed by 38.66 percent and 6.66 percent women had average and poor knowledge in uses of e-Kranti facilities respectively. The table also indicates that 50.66 percent women were average uses of broadband highway whereas only 38.66 women were good, they use broadband highway regularly and 10.66 percent women were poor and these women occasionally use broadband highway. A maximum of 56 percent women were average in uses of universal access to mobile connectivity followed by 28 percent and 16 percent women having good and poor user of universal access to mobile connectivity respectively. The table also shows that 48 percent women gave good response in uses of early harvest program, these women are regular user of early harvest program, and 32 percent women were average in early harvest program because they occasionally use early harvest program whereas 20 percent women gave poor response.

**Table 4:** Mean, Standard deviation and 't' value of various dimensions of Digital India among Allahabad and Faizabad women

| S. No | Dimensions of Digital India Scheme      | Faizabad<br>n=75 |                    | Allahabad<br>n=75 |                    | t-cal   | t-tab<br>0.05% |
|-------|---|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|
|       |   | Mean             | Standard Deviation | Mean              | Standard Deviation |         |                |
| 1.    | Challenges on People Lifestyle          | 40.08            | 10.14              | 38.96             | 11.94              | 0.61 NS | 1.96           |
| 2.    | Public Internet Access                  | 40.58            | 08.78              | 39.82             | 08.20              | 0.54 NS |                |
| 3.    | e-Governance                            | 27.70            | 07.95              | 26.06             | 09.42              | 1.15 NS |                |
| 4.    | e-Kranti                                | 26.18            | 08.78              | 29.16             | 07.98              | 2.19*   |                |
| 5.    | Broadband Highway                       | 15.12            | 05.01              | 14.13             | 04.06              | 1.32 NS |                |
| 6.    | Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity | 09.70            | 03.02              | 09.94             | 03.00              | 0.48 NS |                |
| 7.    | Early Harvest Program                   | 11.01            | 03.36              | 10.73             | 03.42              | 0.50 NS |                |

\*= Significant, NS= Non Significant

The table 4 indicates the mean, standard deviation and 't' value of various dimensions of Digital India scheme among Allahabad and Faizabad women. The table shows that there is non-significant differences among Allahabad and Faizabad regarding challenges on life style, public internet access and E-Governance related to Digital India scheme as the calculated value of 't' is found to be 0.61, 0.54 and 1.15 respectively which is lesser than the tabulated value of 't' i.e. 1.96 at 0.05 percent level of significance indicating that there lies a non-significant district differences. The table also shows that a significant differences Allahabad and Faizabad women related to e-Kranti as the calculated value of 't' is found to be -2.19 which is greater than the tabulated value of 't' at 0.05 percent level of significance indicating that there lies a significant district difference in the above mention dimension of Digital India scheme. There is non-significant differences among Allahabad and Faizabad regarding broadband highway, universal access to mobile connectivity and early harvest program related to Digital India scheme as the calculated value of 't' is found to be 1.32, - 0.48 and 0.50 respectively which is lesser than the tabulated value of 't' i.e. 1.96 at 0.05 percent level of significance indicating that there lies a non-significant district differences.

### Conclusion

It is concluded from the present study that a majority of the respondent from Allahabad and Faizabad district were following under the good category of scoring in Digital India scheme. Majority of the respondent from both district were following under good category of health consciousness life style followed by socially oriented life style and trend seeking life style. Poor internet networking and functional security were the major problem for use of Digital India scheme. Maximum respondent were facing challenges while operating digital gadgets like android mobile phone, tablet and laptop and affected by economically and some are facing electricity and internet network problem etc in Digital India scheme.

### Recommendations

- Community awareness should be organized to ensure the effective and proper use of electronic and digital gadgets.
- Public and private linkage should be encouraged and established to develop free requisite infrastructure for free spreading the class Digital India scheme in rural and remote areas.
- Policy steps should be taken to ensure and effective classes of digital India with collaboration of different government departments.

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