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Batch : 63

Subject : English Essay

Q.1:Is Pakistan Ready for Digital Revolution?

- Outline

1. Introduction:

1.1 Attention grabber: As Pakistan teeters on the threshold of a digital revolution, a pressing question reverberates: can a nation with over 100 million internet users, yet plagued by infrastructure gaps, economic instability and social disparities, truly harness the transformative power of technology to propel itself into a prosperous future?

1.2 General Statement: Pakistan's impending digital revolution presents both unparalleled opportunities and daunting challenges, prompting a crucial inquiry: is the nation's infrastructure, economy and societal framework sufficiently equipped to embrace the seismic shift

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in technology, innovation and global connectivity?

1.3. Thesis statement:- Pakistan is not ready of for digital revolution because of several social, economic, political and educational challenges.

2. Why digitization is needed?

3. Social Issues.

3.1 Lack of awareness about importance of digitization.

3.2 Lack of ethics of using digital platforms.

3.3 Internet and Banking frauds/misuse of Digitization.

3.4 Unskilled Youth.

3.5 Learning poverty.

3.6 Economy Challenges.

3.7 Weak Economy of Pakistan.

3.8 Foreign debt and IMF challenges to start digitization.

3.9 Lack of technological infrastructure.

3.10 Poverty People have no technological and internet access.

4. Political challenges:

4.1 Lack of political will.

4.2 Difficulty in setting up IT organization due to strict rules,

4.3. Fear of Accountability.

5. Educational challenges.

5.1 Illiteracy.

5.2 Lack of (Technological) technical knowledge and expertise.

6. How Pakistan can overcome these challenges?

7. Conclusion.

Essay

'Digital Revolution' implies the infusion of technology into different aspects of life. To put it simply, by the 'Digital Revolution' in Pakistan or digitization of Pakistan means a common place use of information technology into day-to-day affairs by all and sundry in Pakistan. Information Technology has no doubt revolutionized social and organizational life around the globe. Given the newness of this technology, there is a lot of political that needs to be explored. Arguably,

IT can revolutionize the economic development, by the same coin, although its mismanagement in adoption can end up in ~~pta~~ problems or even straight failure of technology at business end.

As far as digital revolution in Pakistan is concerned, it is a distant dream as country face many hurdles blocking her way. Firstly, the major portion of her population is unaware of importance of digitization in their life and the people that have some knowledge of digital platforms lack the ethics of their usage. Secondly, the economy of the country is not strong followed by foreign debt and IMF challenges to start such a giant venture. Thirdly, Pakistan has a serious deficiency of technological infrastructure and equipment necessary for the process of digitalization. Fourthly, there is lack of serious will from political strata of country to digitalize Pakistan. Last but not least, there is illiteracy rate of the country is low and people lack skills and expertise to use

digital devices experts. Keep in view all these challenges digitalization of Pakistan in current scenario will end up as failure.

Digitalization is of crucial importance to progress in today's world. Countries that have achieved advanced levels of digitalization have realized significant economic, social and political benefits.

For them, digitization is a pathway of prosperity. Digitization allows governments to operate with greater transparency and efficiency, and it has a dramatic effect on economic growth. Countries at the most advanced stage of digitization derive 20 percent more in economic benefits than other countries.

Being a developing country economy. It should be Pakistan's immediate choice to digitalize herself to harness the economic, ~~the~~ ~~around~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ social, as well as political fruits that purpose, Pakistan must address and overcome the key issues blocking the way of digitalization.

So that she can also benefit from this emerging new technology.

The first challenge that Pakistan has to overcome is the social challenge as the people (society) of Pakistan don't even know what digitization and what important role it can play in their daily life. By using digital technology we can get answers to questions about anything and can also save money on everything (like), including clothing, airfares, shoes, hotels, foods and even on drinks. Digital technology can help to communicate with anyone regardless of where you are and can also help in education as online education is the fruit of digitalization. Digitalization can also be helpful to earn a living as there are many different jobs as well as business opportunities in the digital world. But even in the present days, number of Pakistanis not knowing how dramatically and effectively digital revolution can change their social and economic lives still

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Rely on traditional methods. This is further strengthened by the mindset of Pakistan is that the digit money and communication is dangerous for their social structure and will have negative effects on their society which is absolutely not true. This whole situation makes it difficult to start digitalization. Second most important social hurdle in the way of digital revolution is ethical deficiency in the Pakistanis of using digitalization. The portion of Pakistani society that is familiar with the use of technology in their daily life do not have ethics of using it. They don't respect the privacy of anyone and also use it for negative purpose. No doubt using digital devices we can get access to any information and can also use it to spend our free time by accessing entertainment material but that does not mean that we use it to watch pornographic material. According to google, Pakistan is the stand

above all in the race of watching porn online. This shows how much Pakistani nation is using information Technology for positive and learning purposes. The main reason of this ethical deprive mindset of Pakistan's is lack of proper ethical ~~educ~~ education of using internet. Our schools, colleges and even universities do not pay any attention to giving ethical education to students that how the internet can be used for benefactory purposes. This is a whole is major hurdle in way of digitalization. Another issue to overcome in digitalization is misuse of digitalization. Online frauds such as fake phone calls to retrieve personal information and ATM scamming alone cost up to Rs. 1 billion a year. In the April present year, Federal Investigation Agency received more than 100 different complaints of internet banking frauds from different cities of country showing how vulnerable Pakistan to online frauds. The state has made FIA-cyber using to deal

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with these crimes under PECA law of Pakistan constitution, but the institution has only been successful. To reduce cybercrime and not been able to fully cope it. As alone in lockdown period, 488 complaints of cyber financial crime were reported. Businessman doing online trade consider these online financial crimes a major threat to their business and also the customers try to avoid online financial transactions because of these alarming financial crime cases. The cybersecurity infrastructure of Pakistan is quite vulnerable, unless this issue is not settled the digitalization of the country can never be successful. Moreover, unskilled labor in the country is also stopping digitalization itself. In the digital world the thing that matters the most is skill.

Pakistan currently has largest youth population of its history having 60% of people in the age of 15-64 years, Pakistan can use this force to harness

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fruit of digitalization, but the main problem is that despite skills are lacking in about all of chunks of population. The main reason of this deficiency of skills in youth is the education system of Pakistan that only focus on giving degree and not training and passing any skill to students. According to PIDE, 16.5% of graduates are unemployed in Pakistan. This chunk of literate force can be used in digitalization, but they also lack skills needed. As Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, said in world Artificial Intelligence conference in Shanghai, "If you want to keep your job in the face of ~~the~~ increasing automation you should work on your "soft skills".

But the educational institutions are not here to impart any skill set to their students making the digitalization dream more difficult to fulfill.

Another major social challenge for digital revolution in Pakistan is learning poverty of Pakistan. Learning poverty is one of main issues to be overcome to have digital revolution. According to World bank report,

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75% of children in Pakistan at later primary age today are not proficient in reading, adjusted for the out-of-school children. The percentage highlighted by WB is alarming as it shows that children lack even the ability of reading in early secondary age. If the rate is such high how can a country think of having a digital revolution because the matter is not only having digital ~~devices~~ devices but also making it a success. Therefore, currently it is safe to say that Pakistan is not completely ready for digitalization. In addition to all social challenges, Pakistan is facing serious economic issues which make the time unfavorable for ~~digital~~ digital revolution. First of all, Pakistan is developing country having a weak economy and for digitalization.

Secondary, the foreign debt and IMF policy implementation is also a hurdle in the way of digitalization. As of March 2020, the public debt of Pakistan is estimated to be about Rs 428 trillion which is 98.2 percent of gross domestic

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Product (GDP) of Pakistan. Their cyber security infrastructure is one of that infrastructure on which IBM security services Global Lead partner said that "Pakistan had a vulnerable cybersecurity infrastructure, and organizations were used security devices which were easy to misuse and conduct cyberattacks."

Speaking on cyber security infrastructure of Pakistan, it is important to mention that the technology is so vulnerable that particulars of Pakistan's ^{credit} cards

Such as card numbers and PIN codes had been on sale in black markets several times in the recent past. This gives us a

glimpse of technological slackness of country. According to Ministry of Planning and development, about 29.5% of Pakistan

population lives under the poverty line.

This number increases when we talk about the number of people having access to internet in country is almost. With a

large portion of the population of a country having no technological support

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or internet access how digitalization can occur. Covid-19 virus and ongoing lockdowns has increased the number of internet users in the country but there are still many far-flung areas in Pakistan where there is no internet access.

In education, the most important issue is illiteracy. The illiteracy rate of Pakistani men is only 59% and this rate is even less in case of women, to be precise 49%. Until the people of the country are not literate and have basic skills of reading and writing they can easily update themselves into digital world. But if the 50% of the country's population does not ~~have~~ have the basic ability to read and write they cannot prosper, until this literacy issue is not overcome, the digitalization can never be successful.

Another important educational issue which Pakistan is facing is that the teachers who are who are teaching and shaping the

future of the country themselves lack technological knowledge and skill.

For solving and overcoming political, social educational challenges Pakistan must immediately start telling her people that how much important is digitalization for them and for progress of country and then giving proper ~~edu~~ ethical education to the citizens how to use digital platforms for beneficial purposes. For successful digitalization of country, Pakistan must improve her economy and must deal with foreign debt and different challenges posed by international organizations and then invest a proper number of resources that can fulfill the technological loopholes and by using that technology she should make sure that each and every citizen is connected and have proper access to internet.

To conclude the whole discussion.

It is not wrong to say that keeping in view the current challenges and

issues Pakistan is not ready for digitalization herself. No doubt, the current government is trying to introduce digitalization, but this huge venture cannot be successful until the key issues are addressed properly and are overcome. To summarize the whole discussion, Pakistan has many social, political and economic issues which are enshrined into her society so intensively that without addressing this deadly cobweb the fruits of digitalization cannot be ~~harnessed~~ harnessed.
