



India's Soft Power: Digital Platforms and Cultural Entrepreneurship

Sanjay Anandaram Global Ambassador, iSpirt Co-founder, NICEorg August 20th 2021

Soft Power...

"when one country gets other countries to want what it wants-might be called co-optive or soft power in contrast with the hard or command power of ordering others to do what it wants. ..Soft power, he said, lies in a country's attractiveness and comes from three resources: its culture (in places where it is attractive to others), its political values (when it lives up to them at home and abroad), and its foreign policies (when they are seen as legitimate and having moral authority)

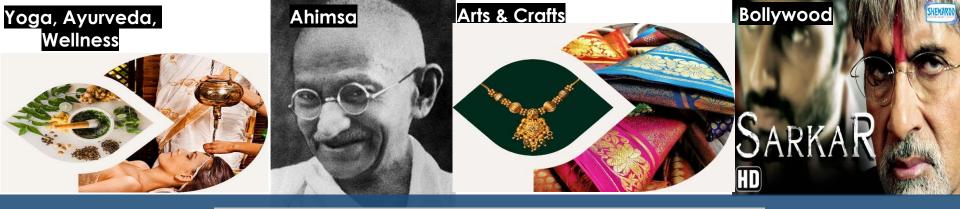
"Yes, the largest part of a country's soft power is produced by its civil society rather than its government.India's soft power comes in part from its ancient culture, but also from modern culture such as Bollywood and its democratic political culture"





Joseph Nye, Harvard Political Scientist in "Bound to Lead: The Changing Nature of American Power " (1990)

Softpowermag.com August 15th 2021



India's Traditional Soft Power



Cuisine

Democracy

Ancient Heritage

India is the 7th largest exporter of Creative and Cultural goods and services (2018 UNCTAD Report): Essentially commodities & labour

Countries are known for companies, brands and products

Eg Yoga is a \$80b global industry, World Yoga Day, No Indian yoga brand

India is not in Top 30 Soft Power Rankings (2019)

What is the economic & geo-political leverage offered by traditional soft power?



Time to Shift the Focus!

Commodities & Labour to Products & Brands

□ Supply side to a jugalbandi with Demand side

Design, Technology, Customer Insights, Market understanding, Customer service, Distribution, branding, IP,

Trends and Templates are Supportive

- □ Strong tail winds supporting this shift in Focus:
- Changing demographics (eg Google 2020 Report Proud to be Desi)
- New breed of entrepreneurs
- Market readiness: rising incomes, media, global influences,...
- Increasing availability of capital, expertise, digital channels
- Reducing friction of starting businesses

Learnings from Indian IT/Tech entrepreneurship

CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP Enormous opportunity for profitably building Brand India

Enormous opportunity also exists beyond the Cultural! Indian Software as Soft Power

INDIA'S DIGITAL PLATFORMS OFFER A TRANSFORMATIVE BLUEPRINT TO EMPOWER ECONOMIES WITH INDIAN KNOW-HOW AND KNOW WHAT



INDIA'S DIGITAL PLATFORMS

and

ONDC

payment systems and transition to cashless

PAPERLESS LAYER

Rapidly growing base of

identity with open access of



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paperless systems with billions of artifacts

IDENTITY LAYER

A unique digital biometric nearly a Billion users





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St Bharar

DIVOC





Digital Platforms of India

Globally recognised, Value endorsed by leading voices



Bill Gates Founder, Microsoft 2016

India is on the cusp of leapfrogging and leading the world in digital financial inclusion and in becoming the most digitalised economy Raul Paul, GLG Hedge Fund 2017 India has, without question, made the largest technological breakthrough of any nation in living memory.

Prof Kenneth Rogoff, Harvard Economist 2017 The world has much to learn from Aadhaar

Vasant Dhar, Prof NYU Stern

"If we want control over data, the Indian model offers a path toward individual data empowerment for the Internet age." **Sept 2018**



Bank for International Settlements <u>Paper 106</u> Digital Fin Infra Lessons from India Dec 2019

Google to US Federal Reserve Nov 2019

"FedNow should be an Open System (akin to UPI).."

Washington Post

ORLD BANK

BILL&MELINDA

GATES foundation

OCKEFELLER OUNDATION

UN OMIDYAR

Economist.

Rockefeller...

WaPo...

Media & Institutions

Wharton FinTech, The

WorldBank, BMGF, ON,

DIGITAL GOVERNANCE: INDIA OFFERS A NEW MODEL

- Digitalisation of Economies and Societies: *IR4.0, Society 5.0*
- Impact on security, privacy, trust, ownership, sovereignty, digital trade/ecommerce, legal, policy
- G20 2019 Leaders declaration accepted: "achieving an inclusive, sustainable, safe, trustworthy and innovative society through digitalization and promoting the application of emerging technologies.. critical role played by effective use of data, as an enabler of economic growth, development and social well-being"
- <u>UNHLPDC</u>, <u>ID4D</u>, <u>ID4Africa</u>, <u>SmartAfrica</u>
- UN SDG Goal 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration indicator

INDIAN DIGITAL PLATFORMS AS PUBLIC GOODS

How India Could Transform Africa

"An Aadhaar-like digital ID system would boost growth as much as Chinese-built roads" **Oct 2018**

Moussa Faki Mahamat @AUC<u>M</u>oussaFaki

Chairperson of African Union Commission

"I suggest a continent-wide digital identity model to track African member state progress, **learn from India's experience**, to create an Africanconceived and owned system that ensures inclusive, harmonized growth for our Continent" **#DigitalID4Africa**, *Nov 7th 2018*

INDIA'S DIGITAL PLATFORMS

INDIA IS SUPERBLY PLACED



RECOGNITION

Indian Software is globally recognised, respected and regarded: From Silicon Valley to Singapore

GLOBAL SCALE

\$190b+, 4million employed, 50+ unicorns, 3rd largest ecosystem in the world

HUGE TALENT BASE, DOMESTIC CAPACITY highly capable, aware, educated, aspirational, confident, entrepreneurial talent



VALUE ADDED High Value-Added





INDIA'S DIGITAL PLATFORMS

BENEFITS TO INDIA

TECHNOLOGY-KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

For the 1st time, leading edge Indian Technology and expertise can be provided to create digital infrastructure, policies and management for the benefit of citizens of other countries

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Indian companies get market access, benefit

COGNITIVE CAPITAL Benign Provider of 21st century Digital Governance Know-How and Know-What

DIGITAL POWER

BENEFITS TO OTHER COUNTRIES



ACCESS TO PROVEN TECH

Access to proven, innovative, scalable technology for delivering efficient governance



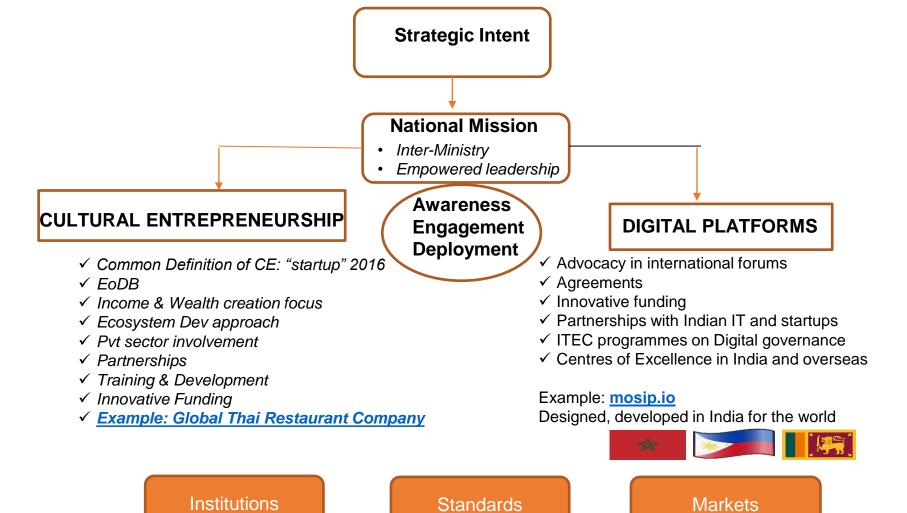


ENORMOUS BENEFIT TO CITIZENS

Financial Inclusion, Social Benefits, Credit, Access to records,



BUT HOW?



STRATEGIC INTENT

You are what your deep driving desire is, As is your desire, so is your will As is your will, so is your action As is your action, so is your destiny

Brihadaranyaka Upanishada 4.4.5

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Thank You!

