G20 Series # 97

India's G20 Presidency

G20 4th Digital Economy Working Group Ministers' Meeting

(Bengaluru– August 19th, 2023)

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

August 24, 2023

"We can build an entire eco-system of technology-based solutions to address the challenges faced by humanity. All it needs from us are the four C's - Conviction, Commitment, Coordination, and Collaboration."

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi

The G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meet was held in Bengaluru on August 19, 2023 following the 4th meeting of the G20 Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) held from August 16 – 18, 2023.

The Digital Economy Working Group has been vital in empowering digital public infrastructure, fostering digital skills, and strengthening cyber security within the digital economy.

The Ministerial Meeting was a culmination of the four Digital Economy Working Group Meetings. In these meetings, the delegates furthered their commitment on the priority areas of the working group. The delegates shed light on the significance of the working group in driving global growth. Thematic sessions and deliberations focused on digital connectivity and security for a safe, resilient, and trusted digital economy.

❖ 1st Digital Economy Working Group Meeting in Lucknow from February 13 –15, 2023
❖ 2nd Digital Economy Working Group Meeting in Hyderabad from April 17-19, 2023
❖ 3rd Digital Economy Working Group in Pune, Maharashtra from June 12-14, 2023
❖ 4th Digital Economy Working Group Meeting in Bengaluru from August 16 – 18, 2023

FOCUS AREAS OF THE WORKING GROUP

DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

DIGITAL SKILLING

CYBERSECURITY IN DIGITAL ECONOMY

The Ministerial Meeting began with a [special video message by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi](#). Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister credited the launch of the Digital India initiative in 2015 for the unprecedented digital transformation that has taken place in India over the last 9 years. He underlined that India's digital transformation is powered by its unshakeable belief in innovation and its commitment to speedy implementation while also being motivated by the spirit of inclusion where no one is left behind.

The Prime Minister touched upon leveraging technology to transform governance and make it more efficient, inclusive, faster, and transparent and gave the example of Aadhaar - India's unique digital identity platform covering more than 1.3 billion people. He mentioned the **JAM trinity** - Jan Dhan bank accounts, Aadhaar, and Mobile that have revolutionized financial inclusion and the UPI payment system where nearly 10 billion transactions take place every month, and 45% of the global real-time payments happen in India.

The Prime Minister expressed satisfaction that the working group is creating a **G20 Virtual Global Digital Public Infrastructure Repository** and underlined that progress on **Common Framework for Digital Public Infrastructure** will help create a transparent, accountable, and fair digital ecosystem for all. He also welcomed the efforts to develop a roadmap to facilitate **Cross Country Comparison of Digital Skills** and setting up a **Virtual Centre of Excellence on Digital Skilling**. He said that these are important efforts to meet the needs of a future-ready workforce. Noting that the digital economy will face security threats and challenges as it spreads globally, the Prime Minister pointed out that it is important to build consensus on the **G20 High-Level Principles for a Secure, Trusted, and Resilient Digital Economy.**

Shri Modi emphasized that an entire ecosystem of technology-based solutions can be built to address the challenges faced by humanity. "*All it needs from us are the four C's - Conviction, Commitment, Coordination, and Collaboration*", the Prime Minister concluded as he expressed confidence that the working group will take us forward in that direction.

Later, Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw welcomed Ministers and delegates in his address at the inaugural session. The Minister shared Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of *'democratising technology'*, emphasised global collaboration for DPI, digital economy, and digital skilling.

Reaffirming the priorities of the working group and enhancing DPI for a resilient future, the Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting concluded in Bengaluru. After deliberations, the G20 Digital Economy Ministers adopted the ambitious & forward-looking Outcome Document and Chair's Summary which reiterates the priorities of the Working Group and strengthens commitments.

A Culture Highlight!

Post crucial deliberations ministers and delegates at the G20 DEMM gathered to immerse in a unique and vibrant display of India's cultural hues and colours. The evening was filled with glimpses of India's rich music, elegant dances, and cultural heritage

References:

PM addresses G20 Digital Economy Ministers' Meet

Text of PM's video message during G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meet

G20DEMM Outcome Document and Chair's Summary

Twitter Links:

[The G20 DEWG and DEMM concludes in Begaluru](#)

[Watch Prime Minister Narendra Modi's special address at the #G20 Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting in #Bengaluru.](#)

Video Links:

[Press Conference On G20 Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting In Bengaluru](#)

[PM Narendra Modi's special address at the Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting in Bengaluru](#)

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