



Bengaluru Tech Summit

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Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister has inaugurated the **Bengaluru Tech Summit** via video conference which was also **attended by the Prime Minister of Australia**.

Key Points

- It is India's flagship event which will deliberate on the key challenges emerging in the **post-pandemic world** with focus on the **impact of prominent technologies**. It will also provide a platform for discussion to encourage disruptive technologies.
 - **Disruptive technology** is an innovation that **significantly alters the way that consumers, industries, or businesses operate**. It sweeps away the systems or habits it replaces because it has **attributes that are recognizably superior**.
 - **Examples: e-commerce**, online news sites, ride-sharing apps, and **Global Positioning System (GPS)**.
- **Theme for 2020:** Next is Now.
- **Focus:** Innovations in the domains of **Information Technology and Electronics and Biotechnology**.
- **Organisers:**
 - The Government of Karnataka along with Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS).
 - Karnataka government's Vision Group on Information Technology Software.
 - **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)**.
 - MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications.
- **Concerns Highlighted:**
 - With the increasing use of technology in governance and other areas, **data protection and cybersecurity** become significant.
 - There is a **need to devise robust cybersecurity solutions** which can **protect digital products against cyber attacks and viruses**.

- **Role of Technology:**

- It was highlighted that **India's governance model** is based on '**technology first**'.
- **PM-KISAN Mobile App:**
 - It **enables direct transfers to farmers** and also **digitises the complete database** of farmers.
 - The farmers can view the status of their application, update or carry out corrections of their Aadhaar cards and also check the history of credits to their bank accounts.
- **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana:**
 - Under it, the government **deployed fintech and digital technology to monitor** swift and efficient transfer to the beneficiary through **Direct benefit transfer**.
 - It also **ensured credit to the beneficiary's account without the need for the beneficiary to physically go to the branch** which helped people a lot during **lockdowns**.
- **Ayushman Bharat:**

Making good use of technology and innovation can further reduce the overall cost of healthcare. AI-powered mobile applications can provide high-quality, low-cost, patient-centric, smart wellness solutions.
- **Aarogya Setu App:**
 - India's first contact tracing app, Aarogya Setu app is based on the idea of '**technological solutionism**' (technology providing an impartial solution to complex social problems).
 - It enables bluetooth based contact tracing and maps likely hotspots of Covid-19 and disseminates the relevant information.
- Apart from all these, **technology plays an important role in governance** as well.

- **India and Australia on Technological Development:**
 - Both countries highlighted the **unlimited possibilities of working together** in space research, critical minerals, **5G, Artificial Intelligence, quantum computing**, etc.
 - In **June 2020**, the **India-Australia Virtual Summit** was held where both countries signed the landmark **Australia-India Technology Framework on cyber and cyber-enabled technology**.
 - In **December 2020**, **India-Australia Circular Economy Hackathon** (I-ACE) will be organised which will focus on identification and development of innovative technology solutions by students, startups and MSMEs of both nations.
 - They are also **planning to launch Australia-India cyber and critical technologies partnership grant programme** and are also working together for an **open, free, safe and secure Internet**.

Government Initiatives to Promote Technology

- **Digital India Mission**: Launched in **2015**, it aimed to **prepare India for a knowledge future for being transformative** that is to realise IT (Indian Talent) + IT (Information Technology) = IT (India Tomorrow) and for making technology central to enabling change.
- **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**: It is a payment system that allows money transfer between any two bank accounts by using a smartphone.
- **National Digital Health Mission**: It is a complete **digital health ecosystem**. It is a platform launched with four key features viz. **health ID, personal health records, Digi Doctor and health facility registry**.
- **Swamitva Scheme: Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas** (Swamitva) was launched to provide an **integrated property validation solution for rural India**.

Source:PIB