



■ Employees mark their attendance through an Aadhaar-based system, which is a revolutionary platform. More than 1.1 billion Indians have been issued Aadhaar IDs.

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Global leadership through digital empowerment

It's time India developed a plan to help developing countries benefit from its digital leadership and success



ble institution-building and to make progress toward good governance?

Several developing countries have been interested in the Indian digital platforms and experiences. India can assist them in getting some fundamental issues right regarding the design of foundational identity infrastructure and relating it to financial services, governance, security, and other functions.

It is time for India to develop a strategy and plan for helping other countries to benefit from its leadership and success. Modi should appoint a task force to focus on three efforts. First, develop a strategy for integrating the provision of developing digital infrastructure as an integral part of Indian foreign assistance. Second, it should outline how to establish a 'one-stop shopping' system for nations seeking assistance. Third, the task force should think through what partnerships India should establish internationally with other digital powers, such as the United States, Estonia, Singapore, and Israel.

China is using digital systems to create an oppressive surveillance State, to the detriment of its people and its global image. India should lead the way in showing developing countries how to use digital platforms to create an "opportunity state", a system that enables individuals at every level of society to pursue their aspirations and help their families. This can be a lasting and unique contribution of India to the world.

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The views expressed are personal

Digital technology is helping transform India from a developing country to a great power. Prime Minister Narendra Modi understands that digitisation can improve India's competitiveness, unleash its huge economic potential, and transform society.

India is a leader in the use of digital technology in the areas of digital ID and financial inclusion. Two systems are particularly significant. Aadhaar, is a revolutionary digital ID platform. Already more than 1.1 billion Indians have been issued Aadhaar IDs.

IndiaStack is a unified software platform allowing for interface and access to various software applications or web services. Particularly important is the establishment of a unified payments interface and design allowing for digital signature.

These digital platforms have increased efficiency, dramatically simplifying financial connectivity between individuals and between businesses and government and reducing the amount of paperwork.

The Indian model has implications for the rest of the world, especially in the developing countries, including fragile states. How can these countries use digital technology to ena-