

As per the ACI worldwide, India overtook China in real time transactions with 25 billion against 15 billion of China. This illustrates the success of financial inclusion.

Reasons for Financial Inclusion:

- Jan Dhan Scheme - which helped poor people to have bank accounts.

Nearly 50% of Jan Dhan account holders are women.

- JAM Trinity - Jandhan - Adhaar - Mobile Trinity helped government to provide targeted scheme to beneficiary such as LPG subsidy, old age Pension, Garib Kalyan Yojana subsidy, KISAN scheme.

- Creation of UPI and based BHIM app by NPCI for user friendly digital transactions

- Differentiated banks, Fintech Companies like Paytm, Tez, Phonepe helped with attractive cashbacks and coupon which led to higher coverage.

- Low cost and high affordability of Internet charges especially 4G services.
- Schemes such as Aadhaar Enabled payment services and Post office payment services extended the user base.

Associated Challenges:

- Gender Gap - As per Global Findex database 83% of males and 77% women hold accounts at financial institution
- Financial literacy - There is literacy gap among Urban and rural population, young and old generation, and women and men. Rural, old generation and women lag literacy → RBI launched Project Digital Financial literacy and SEBI's Pocket Money to improve financial literacy.
- Digital Divide - Rural India lags heavily in terms of Digital Divide. Access to Internet is very low in rural India. Government launched PM Wani, Free wifi at Railways to increase Internet penetration.

Since Financial Inclusion is key to achieve SDG goals there is need to create related Digital Infrastructure and data protection law in the country.