

Recently, government has introduced Pradhan  
mantri wireless Access Network Interface (PM-WANI)  
to increase internet access across India.

currently India's internet users access  
internet through mobile phones and 88%  
of them have 4G connectivity. But as TRAI  
pointed, only 54% of India has internet  
while NSSO says only 20% of population  
has ability to use internet

Similarly India internet report 2019  
highlighted that internet penetration in rural  
India is half of that in urban area.

Thus, PM-WANI scheme could ensure  
to fill the loopholes in a way to realise  
Digital India.

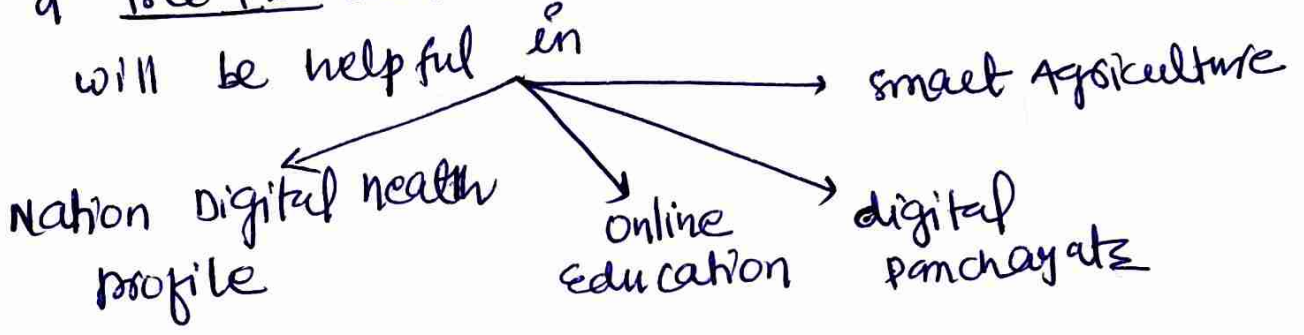
The scheme has following features

- (i) Ease of internet - It will not require  
any regulatory or licence approval to  
become Public Data Operator (PDO).

(ii) complementary with other scheme like Bharat Net which provides for universal grampanchayat broadband connection.

(iii) cheap due to scale - An interface of APP will be there for users registration, which will be interoperable, with different wifi hotspots, but with small charge.

(iv) Data generates - with this government will have a free flow data transmission mechanism, which will be helpful in



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graph TD; in((in)) --> N[Nation Digital health profile]; in --> O[online education]; in --> D[digital panchayats]; in --> S[smart Agriculture];
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However, PM-WANI also has various

concerns like,

(i) Digital illiteracy - A survey of public wifi in USA shows, about 15% people provide any information on such tools.

(ii) Data protection law is still not there, thus right to privacy of puttuswami judgement is on stake.

<sup>100</sup>  
(iii) Fake news - Internet before education, has high chances to mislead people - politically & legally.

however PM-WANI is prerequisite of all these concerns, and Internet access is a way to reach other government schemes.