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Original Research Article

## **CREATING 100,000 DIGITAL TEACHERS**

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## **Background:**

The NEP (Nwe Education Policy) 2020 has laid big emphasis on bringing drastic changes at all the levels - what content will be taught, how it will be taught, what will be the stages of education and so on. It has also recommended some completely new concepts like credit banks, option to elect hereto impossible choices of subjects. With the ambitious commitment to make the higher education enrolment 50%, IHE (Institutes of Highe Education) will also have to be duly equipped for the change to be. Besides the rapidly expanding formal education sector, the ever opening informal education sector - people liking to take courses through the WhatsApp route, YouTube learning channels, online coaching, people liking to learn hobbies, use of social media, through online learning mode, increased use of electronic means of payment, has also opened infinite possibilities for digitally active teachers. I see big scope in creating 100,000 Digital Teachers as soon as possible. Besides creating new, additional, Digital Teachers, the Idea includes upskilling the existing teachers in terms of going beyond using mobiles just to be engaged with social media, elementary use of computers for making documents, power point presentations .... How this will happen? There can be three approaches of accomplishing this fete'. The existing formal institutions like teacher training institutes, colleges, schools, universities can launch in house courses to create well trained Digital Teachers. There can be stand alone, entrepreneurs, institutes, and enterprises, non-government organizations, who may launch courses, products and services catering to having Digital Teachers. The hybrid approach where Industry Institute Interface may create possibilities of creating Digital Teachers as end product of using CSR, sponsoring of such efforts by the corporates having big presence in the country. What are the stages? Creating awareness is the stage of creating awareness about going digital. Through active use of government agencies like the Ministry of Education,

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MSME, which want to develop an eco-system of entrepreneurship among the participants like school, college, university students, the youth seeking career in enterprises. Social media, can play a big role as a very cost effective way to spread this awareness. Connecting is the stage where the prospects are invited to connect with the Idea through joining various orientation courses, ice breaking talks, joining newsletter, joining various specifically created WhatsApp Groups, Facebook Groups, LinkedIn Groups. They attend various short term, long term courses Collaborating is the stage where the connected people become active participants in evolving the Idea further. In collaboration with the Parent Institute, they become Partner in progress of the Idea. Scope of the work Scope of the work is limited by where we choose to stop. In other words, it is infinite. I am outlining some aspects where scope of creating courses, products and services, related to Digital Teachers exists -





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Teaching the school / University Management, Administration, Teachers the core concepts of Artificial Intelligence how it applies to education - Creating, selling, online courses by teachers in their fields of expertise - Using social media to create professional networks - Using digital media by teachers to organise, present, curate, their content - Using digital means to evaluate students' works - Using digital means to automate their mundane works - Invite youngsters, specially the young women, to be a Digital Teacher - Convince the hobbists, amtures, to appreciate the power of going digital and help them create their own YouTube channels, other ways of digital promotion. - And many more ways the Idea can be developed further Economics of the Idea - Looking at the NEP 2020 implementation and market in general, this is an Idea whose time has come - One of the most attractive aspects of going digital is the relative low setup cost of starting, sustaining and promoting any Idea. - We, at Moghe Education Consultancy, have enough internal expertise in education, computer systems. In addition, we have collaborations with reputed international organizations to conceptualise, detail, plan and implement such a Project. - Besides the receipts of conducting the actual Digital Teaching courses, a large number of related courses, services, products too will evolve reducing the costs and adding to the revenue - All the training, content etc. to be prepared only once.

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