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Bits and Bytes of Change: Examining Digitalization's Impact on Khamgaon's Socio-Economic Fabric

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ABSTRACT: Rural areas are changing due to the global digitization trend, which presents both benefits and challenges. This study looks at how digitalization has affected rural socioeconomic situations in many ways, including how it has affected community dynamics, healthcare, education, and agriculture. Although increased access to resources and services through digitization could help close the gap between urban and rural areas, privacy concerns and the digital divide are also brought up by this process. This study, which focuses on Khamgaon region, explores the ways in which digital innovation is changing daily life, from mobile banking to the execution of government programs. It emphasizes the challenges associated with advancement and the necessity of inclusive development policies.

I. INTRODUCTION

This study explores the revolutionary effects of digitalization on rural socioeconomic environments, concentrating on the Khamgaon area. In addition to closing the historical divide between urban and rural populations, the global digitization boom has brought with it a plethora of new opportunities and difficulties. This study attempts to provide insights into the complex web of changes occurring in rural areas by evaluating the multiple implications of digitalization, including its influence on entrepreneurship, education, healthcare, and agriculture.

Within Khamgaon area, digitalization has both opportunities and challenges. Digital technologies like online banking, direct benefit transfers, and mobile banking have the potential to improve access to opportunities in the fields of education, healthcare, and the economy. But there are also significant obstacles to overcome, such as the digital divide, privacy issues, and the destruction of traditional livelihoods. This study aims to evaluate the degree to which the digital revolution has impacted the socioeconomic structure of the Khamgaon area, emphasizing any potential inequalities that might exist among the rural inhabitants there. In addition, this research aims to investigate how the story of rural life in the Khamgaon area is changing against the backdrop of digitization. In order to ensure that no one is left behind in the quickly changing, technologically driven world, this research aims to inform plans and activities that promote inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic growth by analysing the changes brought about by digital innovation.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Bharthur and her co-authors offer a comprehensive examination of digital technologies' potential to empower individuals economically in "Digital Dividend".

In this document the writers examine how digitization might promote financial inclusion, expedite transactions, and open doors for entrepreneurship through a perceptive investigation. Their research sheds light on the revolutionary effects of digital dividends on socioeconomic circumstances and offers useful advice to individuals, companies, and policymakers who want to use technology to promote equitable growth and economic empowerment.

Sridhar's seminal work, "Digital India

"Reflections and Practice" provides a thorough analysis of how the Digital India program would affect socioeconomic circumstances. His analysis explores the program's many facets, including its goals, methods of operation, and the socioeconomic effects that ensue. Sridhar clarifies the transformative potential of digitalization in empowering vulnerable populations, improving government service delivery, and promoting economic growth using empirical



evidence and theoretical frameworks. His observations offer practitioners, scholars, and politicians' insightful advice on how to comprehend and maximize the influence of digital efforts on India's socioeconomic development.

Kiran Karnik's "Crooked Minds: Creating an Innovative Society"

"Crooked Minds: Creating an Innovative Society" by Kiran Karnik (published unspecified year) explores the transformative potential of digital innovation in promoting equality and socioeconomic advancement. Karnik's research provides insightful information about how digital technologies can stimulate innovation-led growth, empower people, and close economic gaps. Karnik clarifies how digitization shapes more wealthy and equitable societies by looking at case studies and theoretical frameworks. His thorough investigation emphasizes how crucial it is to use technology breakthroughs to address urgent socioeconomic issues and generate opportunity for all societal groups.

Nandan Nilekani's "Imagining India(2008)

The Idea of a Renewed Nation" (2008) is an engaging analysis of how technology has influenced India's path of growth. Nilekani explores several aspects of technology's influence, from governance and business to education and healthcare, through an extensive literature analysis. Utilizing both historical and modern analysis, the book sheds light on the ways in which technological innovations—like India's biometric identification system, Aadhaar—have changed socioeconomic environments. With a focus on how technology may empower marginalized people and cross historical boundaries, Nilekani presents an inclusive growth perspective. The author also emphasizes how crucial institutional changes and policy frameworks are to maximizing the benefits of digitization for the advancement of the country. "Imagining India" is a key work in comprehending the complex issues surrounding India because of its insightful analysis and progressive outlook.

Ravi Agrawal's "India Connected" (2018)

Examined are the socio-economic effects of increased smartphone adoption in India. Agrawal explores how the widespread use of smartphones is changing many aspects of Indian culture, including governance and commerce. Agrawal clarifies the revolutionary potential of smart phones in overcoming information gaps, facilitating economic transactions, and empowering marginalized populations through empirical analysis and case studies. The book makes a substantial contribution to our understanding of the intricate relationship between technology and socioeconomic growth in India by highlighting the necessity for thoughtful policies to maximize the benefits while reducing any potential drawbacks of this digital revolution.

Gupta's seminal work, "India 2030

A Socio-Economic Paradigm" (released in 2018) offers a thorough analysis of India's socio-economic development in the context of the digital revolution. Gupta examines the revolutionary potential of digitalization on several elements of Indian society, providing forward-looking perspectives. The book outlines the changing landscape by predicting how technology improvements will affect social dynamics, political frameworks, and economic structures by 2030 through rigorous analysis and prognostication. In order to comprehend the effects of digitalization on India's developmental trajectory and to inform later scholarly discourse and policy creation, Gupta's work is essential reading.

A Better India, A Better World" (2009)

N. R. Narayana Murthy clarifies the transformative potential of technology in reducing socio-economic difficulties in "A Better India, A Better World" (2009). Murthy's observations highlight how important it is for technical innovation to promote equitable growth and improve access to economic, medical, and educational possibilities. Murthy adds to the conversation on using digitization for sustainable development by promoting the use of technology to overcome socioeconomic gaps. His writings provide as a fundamental source of knowledge for comprehending how technology can spur constructive socioeconomic change, assisting enterprises, communities, and legislators in moving toward a more just and prosperous future.

Shashi Tharoor's "The Elephant, the Tiger, and the Cell Phone(2007)

In "Reflections on India in the 21st Century" (2007), the writer offers a thorough analysis of how digitization has revolutionized all aspects of Indian society. The socio-economic effects of ubiquitous mobile phone use, internet access, and digital innovation are all included in Tharoor's research. Tharoor lays the foundation for future scholarly research into the changing relationship between digitalization and socioeconomic conditions in the nation by carefully examining how these technological advancements are changing communication patterns, economic structures, and cultural dynamics in modern-day India.

The Aadhaar Effect: Why the World's Largest Identity Project Matters" (2018)

In "The Aadhaar Effect: Why the World's Largest Identity Project Matters" (2018), Sinha and colleagues examine the Aadhaar biometric identity system in India's socio-economic implications. They look into Aadhaar's function in a number of industries, such as healthcare, financial services, and government assistance programs. The authors emphasize how Aadhaar can improve financial inclusion, lower fraud, and expedite service delivery. But they also talk about worries about data



security, privacy, and discriminatory tactics. The book provides insights into the advantages and disadvantages of Aadhaar, shedding light on its complex effects on India's socioeconomic landscape through thorough examination.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

a) Objectives:

1. To Assessment of Economic Growth
2. To Agricultural Transformation
3. To Quality of Life and Well-being
4. To Environmental Impact
5. To Policy Recommendations

b) Data Analysis:

1. primary data collection method

- a) Primary data is collected by a survey of designing a structured questionnaire.
- b) The questionnaire will be used to identify the people perception about the investments

2. Secondary Data Collection Method

- a) The secondary data will be collected through the literature from books, journals and the various paper presented by authors
- b) From Internet/websites
 - Research Type: Descriptive type of research
 - Sample Size: 100 respondents
 - Sampling Technique: The sampling technique would be Convenience Sampling Technique.
 - Collection of Data: Through online questionnaires by using Google form platform.

3. Hypothesis

H0: There has been visible economic upliftment of the beneficiaries because of digital transactions.

H1: There has been no visible economic upliftment of the beneficiaries because of digital transactions.

4. Limitations:

People don't want to disclose their personal technological information
 Number of samples is limited.
 People are avoiding disclosing original facts.
 Data Collection Challenges

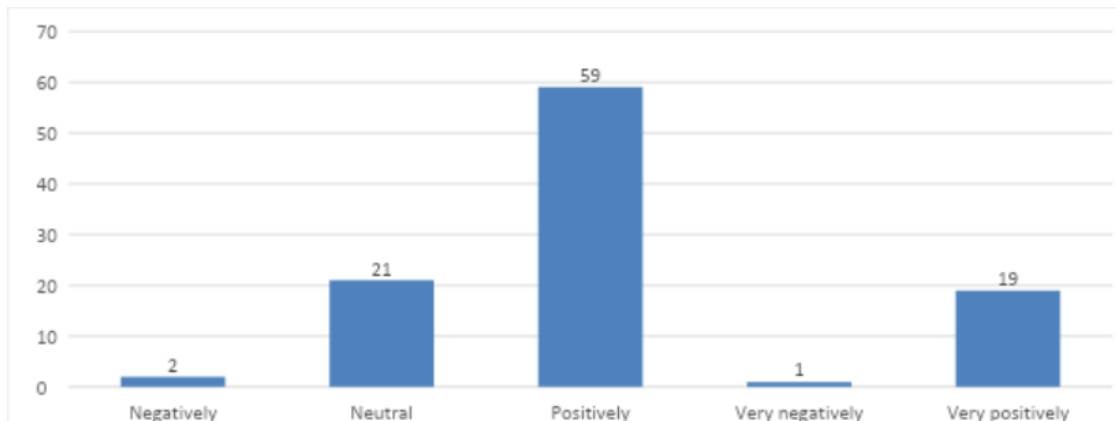
IV. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Based on the survey responses, here are five key questions that represent the research on The Impact of Digitalization on Socio-economic Conditions in Khamgaon Region, along with a brief qualitative and quantitative analysis:

1. Impact of Schemes on Economic Growth:

Table No. – 1: Showing Impact of Schemes on Economic Growth

S. No.	Response about impact of scheme on respondents' growth	Responses in numbers	Responses in %age
1	Negatively	2	1.96
2	Neutral	21	20.58
3	Positively	59	57.84
4	Very negatively	1	0.98
5	Very positively	19	18.62
TOTAL		102	100



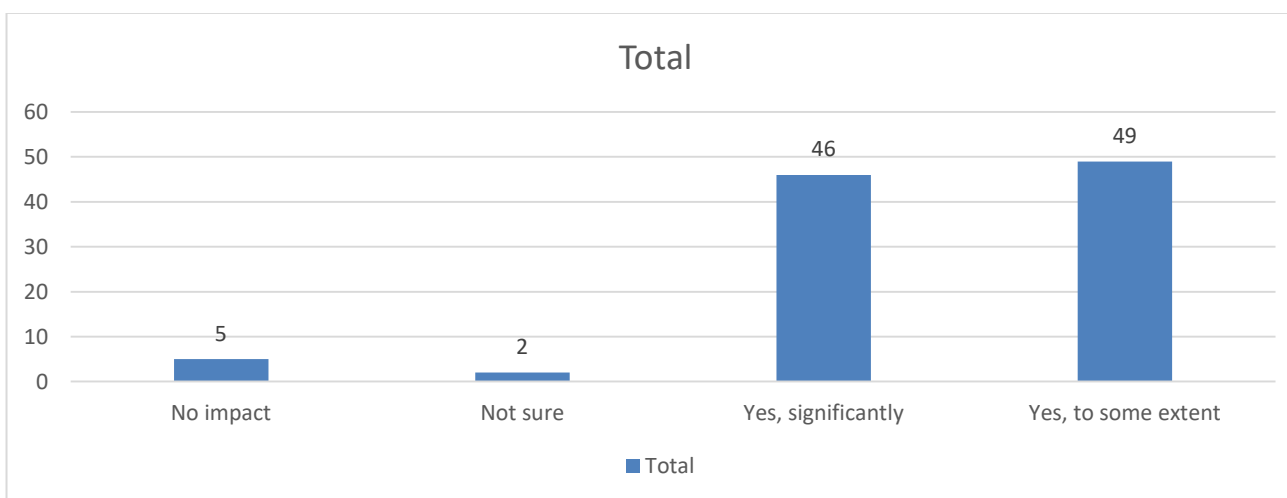
Graph No. – 1: Showing Impact of Schemes on Economic Growth

- It appears to have had little effect on economic growth; 18.6% of respondents thought highly of it, 20.6% thought positively of it, and 57.8% thought the same. Just two respondents one highly negative and the other negative expressed negativity. Most people see it positively overall.

2. Contribution of DBT Scheme to Modernization:

Table No. – 2: Showing Contribution of DBT Scheme to Modernization

S. No.	Response about Contribution of DBT Scheme to Modernization	Responses in numbers	Responses in %age
1	No impact	5	4.90
2	Not sure	2	1.96
3	Yes, significantly	46	45.09
4	Yes, to some extent	49	48.03
TOTAL		102	100



Graph No. – 2: Showing Contribution of DBT Scheme to Modernization

➤ Based on the responses, 45.1% of respondents think the DBT plan considerably advances modernization, while 48% think it advances it somewhat. Just 4.9% believe there is no effect, and 2% are not sure. Though some have doubts or reservations, most people see the DBT plan as a constructive modernizing initiative.

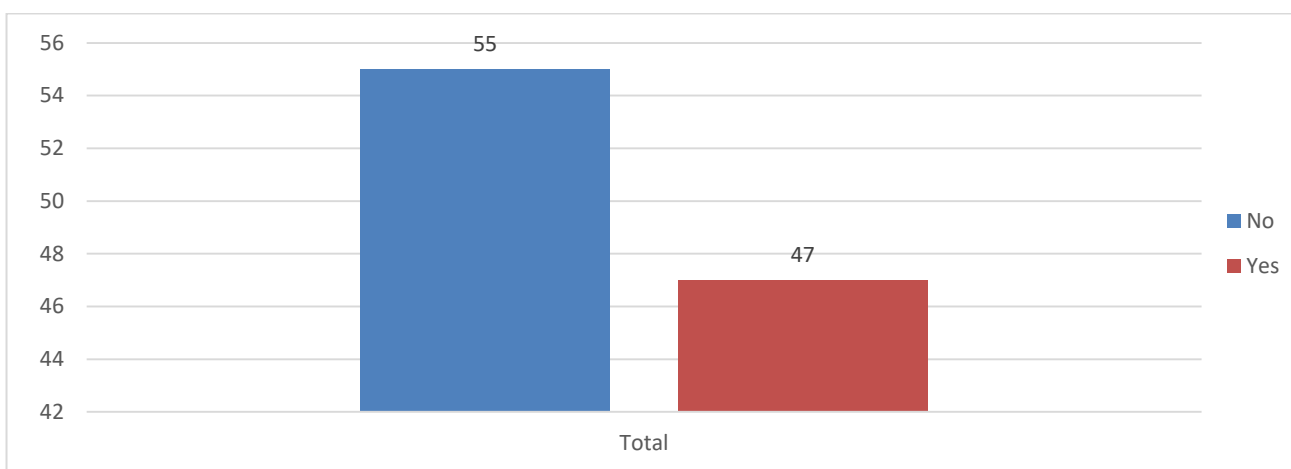


1. Sufficiency of Amount of Scheme to Fulfil Needs:

Table No. – 3: Showing Sufficiency of Amount of Scheme to Fulfil Needs

S. No.	Response about Sufficiency of Amount of Scheme to Fulfil Needs	Responses in numbers	Responses in %age
1	No	55	53.92
2	Yes	47	46.08
TOTAL		102	100

Graph No. – 3: Showing Sufficiency of Amount of Scheme to Fulfil Needs

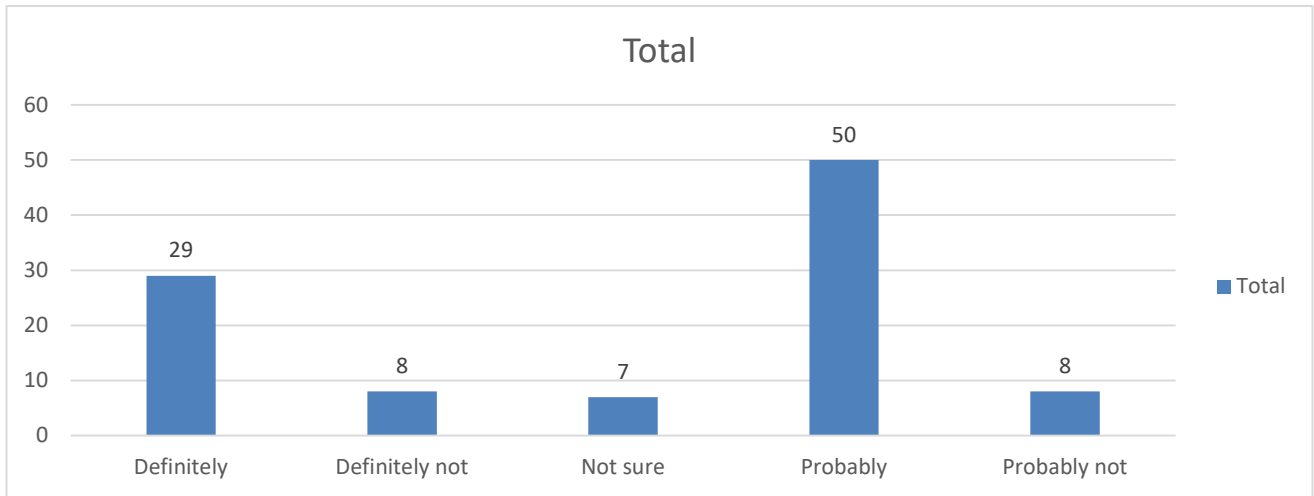


➤ According to the data, 46.1% of respondents think the scheme's quantity is sufficient to meet their needs, while the majority (53.9%) feel it is not. Among the replies, 47 said "Yes" and 55 said "No." This suggests that there is a slim majority that is not quite satisfied with how well the plan meets needs.

2. Role of DBT in Increasing Income:

Table No. – 4: Showing Role of DBT in Increasing Income

S. No.	Response about Role of DBT in Increasing Income	Responses in numbers	Responses in %age
1	Definitely	29	28.43
2	Definitely not	8	7.84
3	Not sure	7	6.86
4	Probably	50	49.02
5	Probably not	8	7.84
TOTAL		102	100



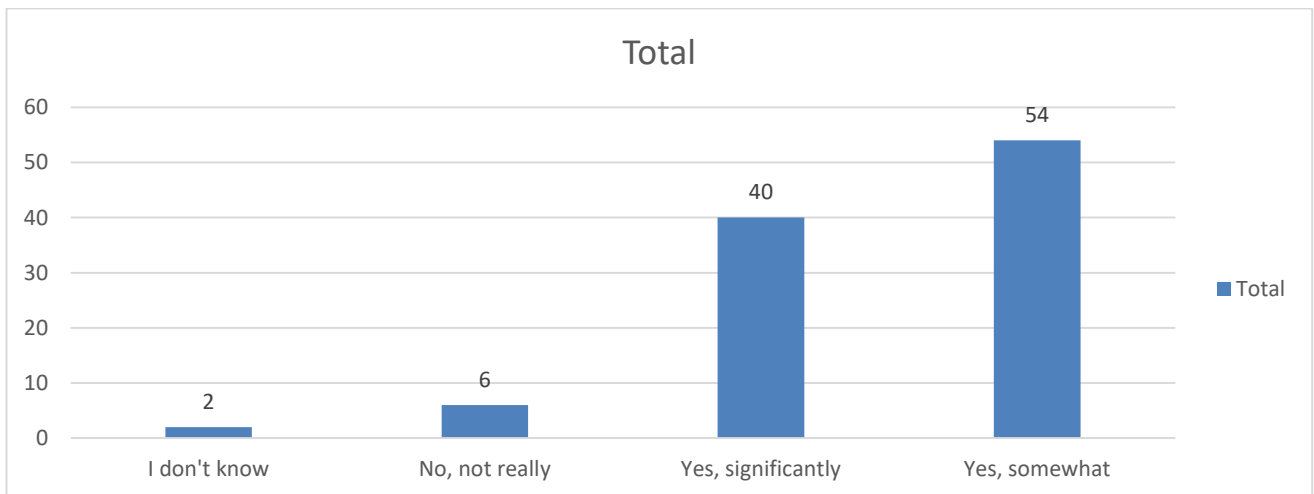
Graph No. – 4: Showing Role of DBT in Increasing Income

➤ Regarding the DBT scheme's effect on income, respondents have a positive perception of it. Nearly 97% of respondents think it has helped them make more money, with 49% responding "Probably" and 7.8% responding "Definitely." Only 4.8% believe it hasn't improved their income, whereas 28.4% are still unsure about its efficacy. The DBT scheme's contribution to income improvement is generally seen favourably, while some ambiguity still exists.

3. Improvement in Accessibility to Banking Services Due to DBT:

Table No. – 5: Showing Improvement in Accessibility to Banking Services Due to DBT

S. No.	Response about Improvement in Accessibility to Banking Services Due to DBT	Responses in numbers	Responses in % age
1	I don't know	2	1.96
2	No, not really	6	5.88
3	Yes, significantly	40	39.22
4	Yes, somewhat	54	52.94
TOTAL		102	100



Graph No. – 5: Showing Improvement in Accessibility to Banking Services Due to DBT

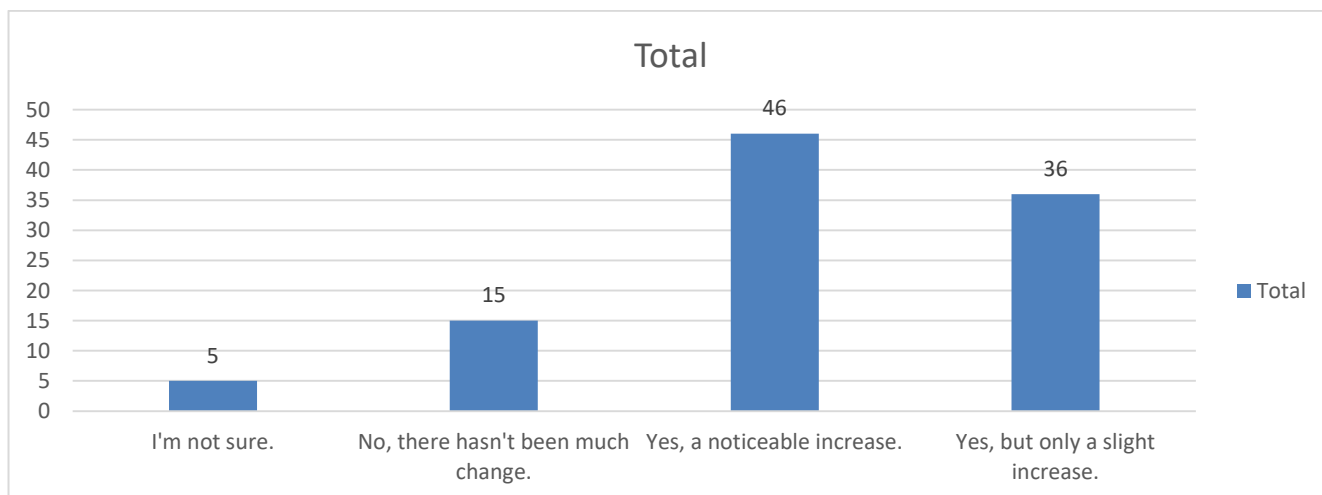


➤ The majority of participants (92.1%) think that Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has made banking more accessible, with more than half (52.9%) observing a notable improvement and almost 40% mentioning some improvement. A small percentage (less than 1%) are undecided, while a minority (7.8%) see little change.

4. Increase in Utilization of Digital Payment Methods Post Introduction of DBT:

Table No. – 6: Showing Increase in Utilization of Digital Payment Methods Post Introduction of DBT

S. No.	Response about Increase in Utilization of Digital Payment Methods Post Introduction of DBT	Responses in numbers	Responses in %age
1	I'm not sure.	5	4.90
2	No, there hasn't been much change.	15	14.71
3	Yes, a noticeable increase.	46	45.10
4	Yes, but only a slight increase.	36	35.29
TOTAL		102	100



Graph No. – 6: Showing Increase in Utilization of Digital Payment Methods Post Introduction of DBT

➤ 80.4% of respondents reported a rise in the use of digital payments following the introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), according to the data. This implies that there will be a benefit to digital transactions. 4.9% were unsure, and 14.7% reported no discernible change. All things considered, most reported a discernible or minor increase, demonstrating how well DBT works to encourage the use of digital payments.

V. CONCLUSIONS

The Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) program has significantly improved the socioeconomic circumstances in the Khamgaon area, according to the comments gathered. Most of the participants are utilizing different DBT programs, mainly the Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Anudan Yojana and the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme. The program has been in effect for a variety of lengths of time overall, with a sizable percentage of beneficiaries receiving benefits for longer than three years. Most people see the scheme's impact on economic growth favourably, believing it to have had a positive or extremely beneficial effect on their own economic growth. The majority of respondents think that the DBT program has made a major or little contribution to modernization. Though nearly half of the respondents said the benefit amount was insufficient, there are differing views on this point. Regarding the scheme's ability to boost revenue and make banking services more accessible, opinions are divided; nevertheless, its ability to lessen poverty and financial stress is unclear. The DBT program has improved people's quality of life generally, and most people are either neutral or satisfied with this development. Furthermore, there is general agreement that more legislative actions are



required to maximize the program's benefits and that DBT has decreased corruption and leakage in rural welfare programs. On whether it has increased the effectiveness of government assistance programs, opinions differ.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

Increase the benefit amount: The financial support provided by DBT schemes should be reviewed and possibly increased in order to solve the issue of insufficient benefit amounts.

Enhance accessibility and awareness: Run efforts to inform rural populations about DBT programs' availability and how to apply for them, as well as ways to make banking services more easily accessible in outlying locations.

Encourage financial planning and literacy: Provide financial literacy initiatives to enable rural households to make wise financial decisions, instil a savings culture, and support entrepreneurial endeavours.

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