

# ARTICLE

## Impact of Blockchain for Indian Economy

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**“Gartner forecasts that the business value generated by blockchain will grow rapidly, reaching \$176 billion by 2025 and \$3.1 trillion by 2030.”**

A young India, with a large digitally enabled middle class is looking for growth and change. Without building the digital skills and capabilities necessary to drive innovation, the nation risks stagnation. However, if India can create capabilities for growth and new solutions, the opportunities, both at home and abroad, are limitless. One of the important capabilities necessary to drive innovation is digital ecosystem through Blockchain Technology

Blockchain technology has the potential to play a significant role in driving innovation and economic growth in India. By providing a secure and immutable platform for digital transactions and data storage, blockchain can enable faster implementation of new technologies and contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the country. It can also help to bring more citizens into the digital economy, allowing them to participate in and benefit from the rapid pace of technological advancement. However, it's important to note that implementing and integrating blockchain technology into various sectors will require careful planning and a strong foundation of digital infrastructure. It will also be important to address any potential challenges or obstacles that may arise during the process.

A robust digital ecosystem is critical for a nation's economic growth and overall well-being. Information security is a key component of this ecosystem, and advances in technology such as blockchain can help to ensure that data and transactions are secure and immutable. The use of blockchain in various sectors can enable the faster implementation of new technologies and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country. However, it's important to carefully plan and implement the use of blockchain in order to maximise its potential benefits and address any challenges that may arise.

Technological development is a powerful force that drives economic growth, creates jobs, and reduces poverty. A key element of a robust digital ecosystem is secure and immutable technology, which is essential for a nation's economic growth and overall well-being. By

digital economy and reap the socio-economic benefits that come with it, ultimately leading to the greater public welfare.

India is indeed an emerging economic power and is expected to achieve strong economic growth in the coming decades. To sustain this growth, it will be important for the country to adopt advanced technologies that can help to streamline and optimise various sectors of the economy. In particular, the use of secure and reliable technologies like blockchain can help to facilitate faster and more efficient transactions, as well as support the growth of industries such as agriculture, manufacturing, and commerce. By adopting and integrating these technologies, India can continue to drive economic growth and development in the coming years.

Blockchain technology is a decentralised and secured digital ledger that allows participating parties to validate information related to transactions and record them on a network of computers. This process speeds up transactions and eliminates the need for intermediaries and associated costs. One of the main advantages of blockchain is that it is virtually tamper-proof because each block of information references the previous block. Currently, the most common use of blockchain is in cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, but it is also being applied to other purposes by businesses. As the technology continues to improve, it has the potential to become a dominant structure for businesses and may significantly impact the way people and businesses deal with transactions. At a time when trust is difficult to come by, blockchain offers a way to verify, validate, and authenticate both values and events. It is important for the technology to have widespread adoption in order to reach its full potential. So far, the adoption of blockchain technology has been increasing and it is expected to continue to grow in the future. The impact of blockchain on businesses, the economy, and other areas can be significant, as it has the potential to transform the way people and businesses operate. In order to reach its full potential, support and adoption of the technology by individuals and companies is essential. Without widespread acceptance and usage, it may not be able to stand the test of time. Fortunately, blockchain technology is gaining increasing popularity, and the number of people using it, either directly or indirectly, continues to grow every month. It is a technology that is likely to dominate the world in the future.

One of the main risks associated with the widespread adoption of blockchain technology is the lack of interoperability due to the inability to achieve international consensus. Ironically, the shift towards decentralisation may require centralised action to establish global standards, which may be difficult given the diverse national blockchain strategies. Blockchain will play a crucial role in the future of money and value transfer, and it is important for governments to engage with industry bodies when developing a regulatory framework for blockchain and other technological innovations. Operational and cyber risks are of particular concern, particularly when the technology is used in unregulated spheres (as opposed to being incorporated by traditional financial institutions). Policymakers should have a thorough understanding of the technology, its

applications, and the benefits and risks, and should take a long-term global perspective rather than reacting quickly based on limited cases. A separate in-depth study of cyber security in relation to blockchain products is needed before such services are allowed, and a mechanism should be in place for continuous monitoring to ensure that cyber security breaches do not occur.

Blockchain technology has the potential to transform international trade by making it more efficient and transparent, particularly in areas such as border procedures, transportation and logistics, and tracking of goods. However, the successful implementation of blockchain in international trade requires the development of a regulatory framework and the addressing of issues such as interoperability, governance, and lack of knowledge outside the blockchain space. The technology is also being used to track and authenticate products and can provide economic benefits to small and medium-sized enterprises through digital certification. In the energy sector, blockchain has potential applications in the management of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) but regulatory challenges related to peer-to-peer trading must be addressed.

In the healthcare industry, blockchain can be useful in managing access and consent to health data, but the industry must overcome challenges related to interoperability, regulation, and data privacy. Supply chain management can also benefit from the use of blockchain, particularly in increasing transparency and traceability, but the technology must be integrated with existing systems and processes and address issues such as scalability and interoperability.

Another potential benefit of using blockchain in government and enterprise contexts is increased security. Because blockchain technology uses cryptographic techniques to secure data, it can protect against unauthorised access or tampering. This can be particularly useful in industries where data security is critical, such as in the financial or healthcare sectors.

In addition, the use of blockchain can facilitate collaboration between organisations. By using a shared digital ledger, multiple parties can view and verify transactions in real-time, which can streamline processes and increase trust. This can be especially beneficial in supply chain management, where multiple organisations may be involved in the production, distribution, and sale of goods. Overall, the adoption of blockchain technology has the potential to bring about significant changes in various industries and sectors. It can improve efficiency, reduce costs, increase security and transparency, and facilitate collaboration. As the technology continues to mature, it is likely that we will see more and more organisations adopting it in various applications.

It is expected that the use of blockchain technology will continue to grow in the coming years and bring about significant changes in various industries and sectors. Innovative companies are likely to adopt this technology, and many estimates predicted that at least one business created using blockchain technology will have a value of \$10 billion and by 2025, it is estimated that blockchain will add a business value of over \$176 billion, which is expected to increase to \$3.1 trillion by 2030. The use of blockchain as a foundational technology for conducting commercial

activities is also expected to increase significantly. These projections highlight the potential for India to become a global leader in the blockchain-technology based business and services.

There are many organisations including few Government Departments working to promote Blockchain Technology in India.

The government has a crucial role in providing efficient and safe trade in the agriculture and food supply chains, and one of the key ways to legitimise the use of blockchain in these supply chains is to digitally document information in a way that is verifiable, accessible to all stakeholders, and ideally builds upon established and trusted systems. It is unlikely that there will be consolidation of agricultural and food supply chain blockchains, so it is important to ensure interoperability and standardisation across platforms. Regulators can help define and develop language standards for data documentation and sharing without stifling innovation in this emerging field. The government can support policymakers and industry by facilitating collaboration between stakeholders and encouraging the standardisation of data and systems. Farmers and their associations should be involved in determining the best modalities for implementing blockchain in the agriculture sector.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in India has proposed the creation of a National Level Blockchain Framework (NLBF) to host multiple blockchain platforms and support domain-specific blockchains. The goal of the NLBF is to promote the use of blockchain technology in various sectors such as healthcare, education, and governance. The technology has the potential to improve transparency, security, and efficiency in business operations. However, there are also risks associated with the mass adoption of blockchain, including the potential for cyber attacks, the need for regulatory frameworks, and the possibility of disruptive changes to traditional business models. Policymakers need to address these risks while also encouraging the adoption of universal standards for data sharing and privacy, such as those outlined in the new data protection and privacy bill currently under consideration in India. The use of blockchain-based tokens, particularly in asset tokenisation, has also gained significant attention in the financial industry. Tokenization can bring benefits such as increased efficiency, transparency, and liquidity, but it also raises challenges related to scalability, settlement finality, data privacy, and governance. It is important for regulators and policymakers to address these issues in order to ensure the smooth functioning of tokenized asset markets and their potential indirect impact on traditional markets.

Another such organization is Blockchain for Productivity Forum. The Blockchain for Productivity Forum (BFPP) is a trust that aims to create a research, analysis, and engagement institution for sharing knowledge about blockchain technology. It aims to develop a knowledge bank and offer solutions to specific social business problems enabled by blockchain. The BFPP also aims to promote the development of distributed ledger technology (DLT) and facilitate skill development and capacity building in the use of blockchain technology. The forum is focused on public service and works to produce high-quality research on policy formulation, industry

research, and training programs related to blockchain technology. It collaborates with both government and private sectors for knowledge sharing and produces research and analysis on issues of national priority.

Blockchain Productivity Forum (BFPF) aims at promoting Blockchain adoption across India and internationally. BFPF is working with Government and Non-Government bodies to proliferate this amazing technology. It aims to be the thought-leaders behind the successful implementation in a variety of industries. The establishment of Blockchain for Productivity Forum has a one stop mission- “Upliftment of the communities by facilitating services or business via various platforms leveraging ICT technology and keeping the records/transaction on secure, immutable distributed ledger technology (DLT) (also called Blockchain) in a sustainable and effective manner.” It has a mission is to maintain a level of excellence and standards in all programs that will give the forum a national and international significance. Its effort will be to learn and discover the transformational potential of Blockchain Technology and its ability to change the life of common people.

BFPF encourage everyone to participate in its mission for the proliferation of Blockchain Technology and its capabilities across diverse industry verticals. BFPF invite new members to the forum from versatile backgrounds and support to achieve the goal.

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