



Digital Nepal

Economic climates in Nepal

Understanding a region's economic climate offers insights and prompts predictions about regional challenges for global and digital development.

MANESH SHRESTHA

Foreign investors are very wary about coming to Nepal for two reasons. Number one is the political instability and the subsequent labour disputes because of the political instability that causes. And other one is because of poor infra structure and inadequate power. So we, we have not really taken off even though our neighbouring countries have.

SUBODH TRIPATHEE

In terms of closing the digital divide with, you know, other countries especially with the, the neighbouring countries. I think, you know, like we should always learn from India, in terms of adoption of the digital technology. We were, in some cases, you know, higher than India. For example, we brought the first digital telephones in whole South Asia. And also we were the first to introduce 3G service: third generation, you know, the mobile service in Nepal. But now we are seriously lagging behind.

AMAR GARUNG

In terms of development of digital technologies in Nepal, the government is the largest user of, er, er, technology. I mean, in the sense, I mean the census department, the, the election commission. These are the entities that require advanced technology. And then the second was the private sector and tourism is a big sector in Nepal and so when tourists came in, I mean, they want to use internet, emails and all that. In Nepal I think you wherever you go you see a lot of cyber cafés.

MANESH SHRESTHA

Tourism is very important for Nepal, but we do not have a very big tourism infrastructure to attract millions of tourists. In the long run it is going to be important but then we cannot put just all our eggs in one basket. It is the human resources that is the most valuable asset. Education at the moment is about rote learning, number one, and passing exams and getting a piece of paper at the end of the day. It is not about skills. Biggest thing I tell my students when I teach them is, 'The most important thing that you learn at school is how to think'. And our education system at the moment is such that it does not demand thinking. It is about regurgitating what they learn rather than application of what they learn.