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As India's data center and digital infrastructure market nears USD 100 billion, what should Government and PSUs rethink when planning AI, cloud and mission-critical infrastructure over the next 3–5 years?

Digital infrastructure is increasingly being viewed like physical infrastructure. Just as roads, ports, airports and the power grid enabled India's industrial growth, AI-ready digital infrastructure will underpin the country's next phase of economic growth. This requires a fundamental shift in planning. The focus can no longer be on simply adding data center capacity, but on building infrastructure that is resilient, power-ready, scalable and capable of supporting technologies we cannot fully predict today.

At Techno Digital, we are already seeing this shift. AI is reshaping infrastructure planning. While data centers were previously designed around space and IT load, planning now begins with power availability, transmission readiness, cooling architecture and network resilience. AI has effectively reversed the design sequence.

Government and PSUs have a unique role in accelerating this transformation. Their investments create long-term demand certainty, strengthen sovereign digital capabilities and encourage private investment in national digital infrastructure. The organisations planning for the next twenty years will shape India's AI future.

As India's AI ambitions accelerate, what challenges must be addressed to build a scalable, sustainable computing infrastructure ecosystem?

The biggest challenge is recognising that AI infrastructure is no longer just an IT investment but national infrastructure. Compute, power, cooling, fibre connectivity, land and policy must evolve together. Every AI model, cloud platform and digital public service depends on the underlying infrastructure. If any element falls behind, the entire ecosystem slows down.

This is why Techno Digital's approach is power-first. Built on the engineering legacy of Techno Electric & Engineering, which has spent over four decades building India's power infrastructure, we understand that digital and energy infrastructure are inseparable parts of the same ecosystem. India has every ingredient to become a global AI infrastructure destination. The differentiator will be not only ambition or capital, but the ability to execute faster, build sustainably and create long-term investment confidence.

As digital networks increasingly drive India's infrastructure growth, how do hyperscale and edge data centers help create a connected, intelligent and resilient infrastructure ecosystem?

One of the biggest shifts we are witnessing is the distribution of intelligence through inference. Digital infrastructure has traditionally been built around centralised compute. While AI model training will continue in hyperscale campuses, inferencing increasingly needs to occur closer to users, industries and public services where real-time decisions are made.

This underpins Techno Digital's edge-to-core strategy. Through our partnership with RailTel Corporation of India, we are building a distributed digital infrastructure ecosystem combining hyperscale capability with nationwide edge presence. This is not only about reducing latency, but also improving resilience, strengthening disaster recovery, supporting data sovereignty and extending digital services beyond major metros.

India's digital future will not be built by hyperscale infrastructure alone, but by integrating hyperscale, edge, power and connectivity into a unified national infrastructure platform. ■