

Unleashing the IoT Revolution in India: Trends, Advantages, Applications, and Strategic Importance

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Abstract

The Internet of Things (IoT) represents a revolutionary paradigm where everyday objects are interconnected, enabling them to collect, exchange, and act upon data. This interconnectedness extends beyond traditional computing devices, incorporating a diverse range of physical objects embedded with sensors and actuators. The applications of IoT are vast and impactful, permeating various sectors globally. From smart homes and cities to industrial automation, healthcare, and agriculture, the IoT is driving unprecedented efficiency, convenience, and innovation. Worldwide, the growth of IoT is staggering, with billions of devices already connected and projections indicating exponential expansion. According to recent statistics, the global IoT market reached \$201 billion in 2022, showcasing a 21.5% increase, and it is anticipated to surge further, underlining the pervasive integration of IoT into the daily lives of individuals and industrial activities. In the Indian context, the strategic importance of the IoT is paramount. With a rapidly expanding economy and a burgeoning population, India stands to gain significantly from IoT applications. The technology's potential to address challenges in agriculture, healthcare, smart cities, and industrial processes aligns with national development goals. The implementation of IoT in India fosters efficiency, sustainability, and economic growth. As the IoT continues to evolve globally, its transformative impact on India's socio-economic landscape solidifies its role as a catalyst for innovation and progress, promising a future where connectivity and intelligence converge for the betterment of individuals and the nation as a whole. With a focus on trends, contributions, advancements, and applications, this article seeks to broaden the knowledge around IoT in India and functions as a kind of reference for scholars interested in the subject.

Keywords: Internet of Things, IoT, Sensors, Actuators, Smart City, Agriculture, Communication, Internet, 5G, Healthcare, Cybersecurity, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth

1. Introduction

In recent years, India's digital technology landscape has seen a revolutionary shift. Such a shift in India is expected to continue, according to industry analysts. This context refers to the Internet of Things (IoT) as a digital technology. Nearly forty years after the creation of the Internet, the concept of the "Internet of Things (IoT)" emerged to provide this continuous connectedness. Previously, only human-machine interactions were included in the idea of connectedness. But over time, as networking technology has advanced, one can now link everything, thanks to the Internet of Things. One of the most significant aspects of the Internet of Things is its capacity to make an item smart by giving it the ability to sense, act, compute, and communicate.

An intelligently linked world where common items, gadgets, and systems interact with each other is what the Internet of Things (IoT) envisions. These entities provide automation, efficiency, and previously unheard-of insights via the collection and sharing of data via embedded sensors. IoT is redefining how we interact with the environment across a wide range of disciplines, including smart cities, homes, and industrial operations. This vision presents a world where the global integration of the physical and digital domains drives innovation and sustainability, hence improving lives of human beings as illustrated in Figure 1.

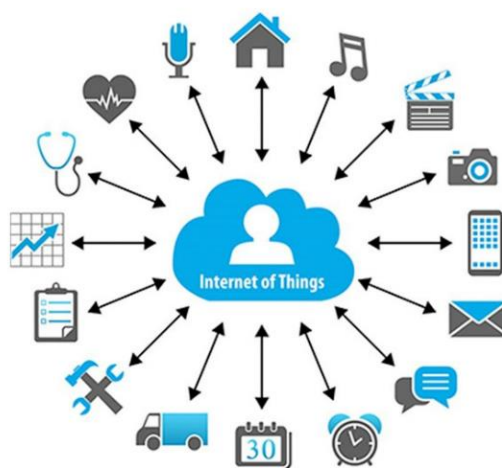


Figure 1. Application of Internet of Things [22]

Table 1. Chronology of Internet of Things [13,18]

Decade	Key Developments in IoT
1970s	Conceptualization of a connected world
1980s	Early discussions on the idea of interconnected devices
1990s	Emergence of RFID technology for object identification
2000s	Proliferation of sensor technologies and initial IoT implementations
2010s	Advancements in wireless connectivity (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth)
	Rise of cloud computing for scalable storage and processing
	Standardization efforts for interoperability
2020s	Integration of edge computing for localized data processing
	Advent of 5G technology for high-speed, low-latency connectivity
	Increasing integration of AI and ML in IoT systems
Ongoing	Continued focus on addressing security and privacy concerns
	Expansion of IoT applications across various industries

The progression of IoT from the 1970s to the present day is explained in Table 1. From its conception in the 1970s until the introduction of RFID in the 1990s, the Internet of Things has undergone many decades of development. In the 2000s, early IoT deployments and a proliferation of sensors occurred. The decade of the 2010s saw advancements in networking, cloud computing, and standardization. The 2020s have seen the introduction of 5G, edge computing, and will see more advanced AI integration. The top priorities are safety, secrecy, and widespread industrial acceptance. When looking at Google search trends, Figure 2 clearly illustrates the differences between the terms "Internet of Things" and "Big Data." IoT and big data have exhibited a tendency for varying worldwide interest over time. Following a gradual upsurge in the mid-2010s, both technologies saw significant growth. However, starting in 2016, IoT surpassed Big Data in terms of popularity, peaking in early 2022.

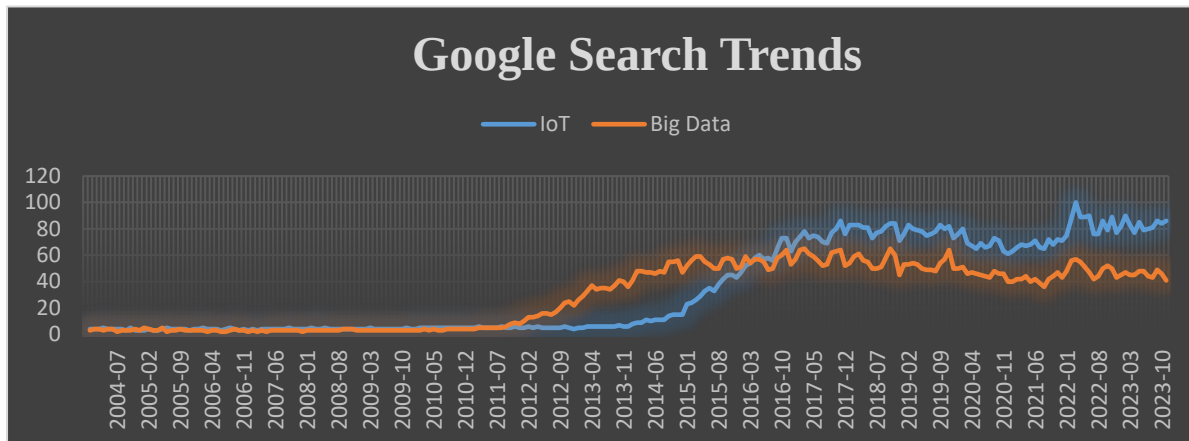


Figure 2. Google Search Trends for the Keywords “IoT” and “Big Data Analytics” [2]

The scientific and statistical literature that accompanied the study on the Internet of Things was found in digital repositories including Web of Science, Scopus, Springer, IEEE, MDPI, and the ACM Digital Library. This study highlights the quality and relevance of the sources used: only peer-reviewed journal papers and conference proceedings published between 2010 and 2023. To guarantee that the inputs are of the highest caliber, keywords pertaining to computer networks, data analytics, the Internet of Things, and other relevant subjects have been used. The search yielded a total of 339.804 works published between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2021 [2].

The applicable field of “IoT” is the primary criterion utilized to analyze the works using the information gathered. To determine the distribution annually and track trends, all available work are consulted. Because there are so many works available, not every one of them is thoroughly examined to determine its subject. Rather, only a portion of the most frequently mentioned pieces from every year are examined and depicted in Figure 3.

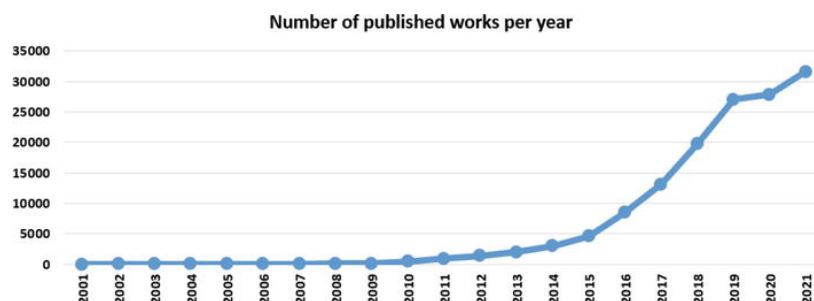


Figure 3. Count of Publications Made between 2001 and 2021 that Make use of the Search Terms "IoT" or "Internet of Things" [4].

The Gartner Hype cycle for the Internet of Things provides a clear understanding of the versatile emerging developments pertaining to the Internet of Things shown in Figure 4.

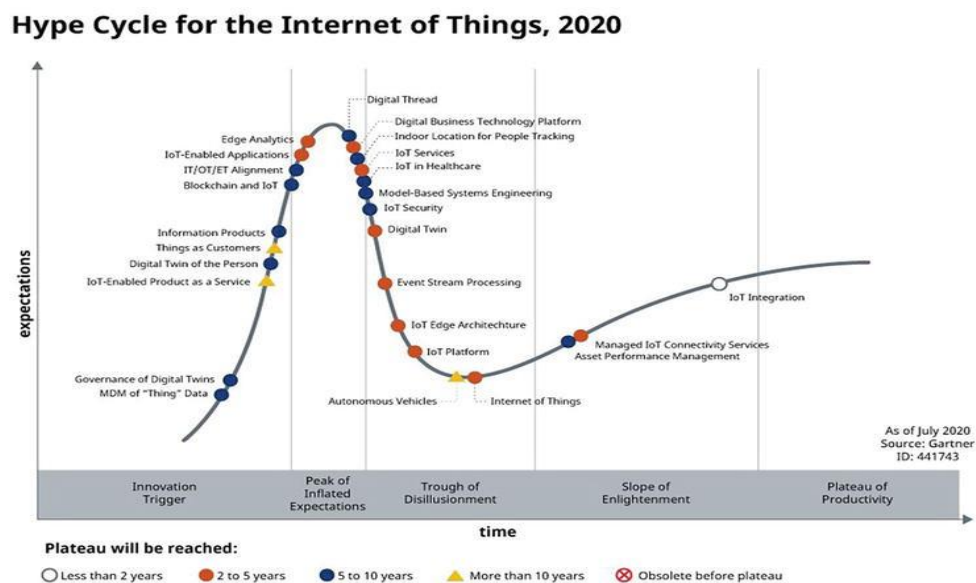


Figure 4. Hype Cycle for Internet of Things [4].

The main objective of this manuscript is to:

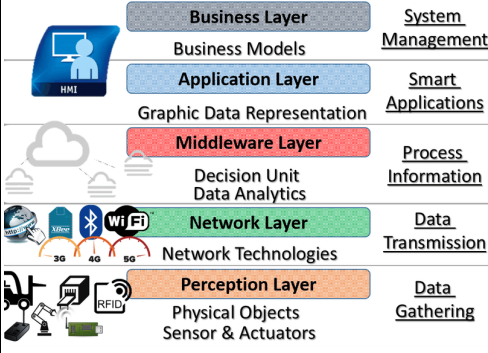
- Provide a summary of the Internet of Things concept, including its trends and potential uses.
- Talk about the development of IoT in India, including its benefits and drawbacks on the Indian subcontinent.

2. Architecture of Internet of Things (IoT)

An IoT system's architecture is made up of several layers that cooperate to enable user engagement, communication, and data gathering, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Layers of IoT [9, 20]

Layers	Function	
Perception Layer	Sensors collect data. Actuators perform actions based on data	
Network Layer	Enables device communication.	

	Uses protocols like Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Zigbee.	
Middleware Layer	Processes and filters data. Manages communication between devices.	
Application Layer	IoT Platforms for development and management. Application services for end-users.	
Business Layer	Integrates IoT data into business processes. Ensures security and compliance.	

The OSI (Open Systems Interconnection) model's many levels are often crossed in the context of the Internet of Things (IoT). The outline protocols that are often linked to the various tiers of the Internet of Things architecture are explained in Table 3.

Table 3. Brief description of Protocols involved in Internet of Things [20].

OSI Layer	Protocol	Advantages	Working Procedure	Uniqueness	Uses in IoT	Standardization	Evaluation and Updates
Application	MQTT (Message Queuing Telemetry Transport)	Lightweight and efficient.	Publish/Subscribe model for communication between devices.	Supports Quality of Service levels, ideal for low-bandwidth, high-latency networks.	IoT device communication, especially in constrained environments.	OASIS, ISO/IEC, IEEE	Regularly updated, with improvements based on community feedback.
Presentation	CoAP (Constrained Application Protocol)	Designed for resource-constrained devices.	RESTful, UDP-based protocol with a focus on simplicity	Optimized for constrained networks, supporting UDP for low-power devices.	Resource-constrained IoT devices, particularly in	IETF RFC 7252, IEEE 802.15.4, RFC 4944	Ongoing standardization and updates by the IETF.

			and low overhead.		sensor networks .		
Session	MQTT-SN (MQTT for Sensor Networks)	Extends MQTT to work in wireless networks .	Similar to MQTT but adapted for non-TCP networks.	Tailored for sensor networks, providing reliable communication in constrained environments.	Wireless sensor networks , IoT applications requiring low-power devices.	OASIS	Part of the MQTT standard, receives updates with MQTT.
Transport	CoAP, MQTT	Efficient use of bandwidth.	CoAP: Uses UDP for lightweight communication. MQTT: TCP-based for reliability.	CoAP is designed for simplicity and low overhead, while MQTT is known for its reliability in diverse network conditions.	CoAP for constrained environments; MQTT for reliable communication.	IETF, OASIS	CoAP and MQTT are periodically updated to address emerging needs.
Network	6LoWPAN (IPv6 over Low Power Wireless PAN)	Enables IPv6 communication over low-power, lossy networks .	Adapts IPv6 to the constraints of low-power, lossy networks.	Optimizes IPv6 for low-power devices, facilitating communication in IoT networks.	IoT applications using low-power, wireless networks	IETF RFC 4944	Regular updates to address interoperability and security.
Data Link	IEEE 802.15.4	Low-power, low-data-rate wireless communications.	Defines the physical layer and medium access control for wireless	Provides a foundation for low-power, low-data-rate communication in IoT networks.	Wireless sensor networks , industrial automation	IEEE	Periodic updates to address improvements in wireless communication.

			communication.		on, smart energy.		
Physical	Zigbee, Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)	Zigbee: Low power, low data rate, short-range wireless communication.	Zigbee: Utilizes IEEE 802.15.4 PHY layer. BLE: Uses the 2.4 GHz ISM band.	Zigbee offers mesh networking, ideal for home automation. BLE optimized for low-power, short-range communication.	Home automation (Zigbee), short-range IoT devices (BLE).	Zigbee Alliance, Bluetooth SIG	Ongoing updates to address security and interoperability.

Table 4. Representative Technologies used in IOT, including its Communication Range, Computational Efficiency, Standards and Characteristics [20].

Technology & Communication Range	Computational Efficiency & Standard	Characteristics	Effectiveness in IoT	Integration of AI and Edge in IoT	Uses and Advantages
RFID Short to Medium Range (Centimeters to Meters)	Low to Moderate (Depends on Passive or Active RFID) EPC Global, ISO 18000	Used for item tracking and inventory management. Low-cost and simple tags. Passive and active variants with different power requirements.	Effective for asset tracking and supply chain management.	AI can enhance RFID data analysis for improved inventory insights. Edge computing can process RFID data locally, reducing latency.	Supply Chain Management, Inventory Tracking.
Bluetooth Low Energy Short to Medium Range (Up to 100 meters)	Low Power, Suitable for Battery-Powered Devices Bluetooth SIG	Designed for low power consumption. Common in wearable devices and smart home applications.	Effective for personal area networks and wearable devices.	AI algorithms can be integrated for advanced analytics on BLE data. Edge devices can	Wearables, Smart Home Devices.

		Reliable short-range communication.		preprocess BLE data locally for faster responses.	
Zigbee Short to Medium Range (Up to 100 meters)	Moderate Power Consumption, Mesh Networking Capability IEEE 802.15.4	Mesh networking enables devices to relay data. Used in smart home and industrial applications. Supports low to moderate data rates.	Effective for home automation and industrial control systems.	AI can be used for predictive maintenance based on Zigbee data. Edge devices can preprocess data for reduced latency in industrial settings.	Home Automation, Industrial IoT.
LoRa Long Range (Kilometers)	Low Power, Suitable for Low Data Rate Applications LoRa Alliance	Designed for long-range, low-power communication. Suitable for applications with sporadic data transmission. Common in smart agriculture and smart city projects.	Effective for outdoor applications with low data rate requirements.	AI can analyze sensor data for predictive insights in agriculture. Edge computing can optimize data transmission in smart city applications.	Smart Agriculture, Smart Cities.

NB-IoT Long Range (Up to 10 kilometers)	Low Power, Optimized for Low Data Rate Communication 3GPP	Part of the 3GPP LTE standard. Designed for low-cost, wide-area IoT applications. Efficient for sporadic and low-data-rate communication.	Effective for massive IoT deployments with long-range requirements.	AI can enhance data analytics for NB-IoT devices. Edge computing can preprocess data for improved efficiency in large-scale deployments.	Smart Cities, Utilities.
5G Short to Medium Range (Up to 1 kilometer)	High Data Rates, Low Latency, Suitable for Dense Deployments 3GPP	The latest cellular technology with high data rates. Low latency suitable for real-time applications. Supports massive device connectivity.	Effective for applications requiring high bandwidth and low latency, such as smart cities and connected vehicles.	AI can leverage the high bandwidth of 5G for real-time analytics. Edge computing can enhance low-latency processing for critical applications.	Smart Cities, Connected Vehicles.

➤ **Integration of AI and Edge in IoT**

- **AI Integration:** AI (artificial intelligence) can be integrated into IoT systems to analyze data, recognize patterns, and make intelligent decisions. For example, AI algorithms can analyze sensor data to predict equipment failures or optimize energy consumption.
- **Edge Computing:** Edge computing involves processing data locally on devices or gateways, reducing latency, and optimizing bandwidth. In IoT, edge computing is valuable for real-time decision-making. For instance, in industrial settings, edge devices can preprocess data locally before sending it to the cloud [20].

➤ Uses and Advantages

- **Supply Chain Management:** RFID is effective for tracking and managing inventory in supply chains, improving visibility, and reducing errors.
- **Wearables and Smart Homes:** BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy) is commonly used in wearables and smart home devices due to its low power consumption and reliability in short-range communication.
- **Home Automation:** Zigbee's mesh networking capabilities make it suitable for home automation, where devices communicate with each other to control various aspects of the home.
- **Smart Agriculture:** LoRa is utilized in smart agriculture for long-range communication, enabling farmers to monitor and manage crops and livestock efficiently.
- **Smart Cities:** NB(Narrow Band)-IoT and 5G are instrumental in smart city applications, providing connectivity for various sensors and devices to enhance urban infrastructure

Situated at the intersection of several technologies, the topic of the Internet of Things (IoT) is highly linked and multidisciplinary. A succinct overview of the technologies that interact with the Internet of Things is provided in Table 4. In conclusion, certain use cases, limitations, and needs determine which IoT technology is best. These technologies are further enhanced by integrating edge computing and AI, which results in more intelligent and effective solutions for a range of Internet of Things application [10].

3. Applications of IoT with Relevance to Indian Context

This section tabulates the current emerging trends of IoT and explicates its importance in the Indian situation shown in Table 5. Across all sectors, IoT is crucial in India. Water shortages are addressed through effective resource management, which revolutionizes agriculture. Astute solutions are used to alter urban life. Irrigation and soil health monitoring are optimized. The Industrial Internet of things (IIoT) boosts industry productivity, while remote patient monitoring helps the healthcare sector. Using real-time air quality monitoring,

environmental issues are addressed. All these applications work together to promote improved living conditions, rural empowerment, and sustainable development.

Table 5. Emerging Trends in IoT Technology in the Indian Context with Real World Examples [12]

IoT Technology Trends in India	Examples	Efficiency in Addressing Issues
Smart Agriculture	"KisanRaja" in Maharashtra: IoT sensors for soil moisture monitoring.	Resource Optimization: Precision farming for optimized irrigation and water conservation.
Healthcare Monitoring	"Cardiac Design" wearable ECG monitor: Remote cardiac monitoring.	Healthcare Accessibility: Continuous health tracking for timely interventions.
Smart Cities Solutions	Bhopal's "Integrated Command and Control Centre": IoT for traffic and waste management.	Urban Efficiency: Improved traffic management and waste disposal.
Industrial IoT (IIoT)	Tata Steel's Jamshedpur plant: IIoT for predictive maintenance.	Industrial Productivity: Predictive maintenance for reduced downtime.
Environmental Monitoring	"City-Sense" in Bangalore: IoT sensors for air quality monitoring.	Environmental Conservation: Real-time pollution data for informed decision-making.
Connected Vehicles	Ola's "Connected Car Platform": IoT for ride tracking and maintenance alerts.	Transportation Efficiency: Real-time tracking and maintenance alerts for seamless rides.
Agriculture Drone Technology	"Skylark Drones": IoT-equipped drones for crop monitoring.	Precision Agriculture: Drone-based solutions for crop management insights.
Edge Computing Integration	Integration into smart cameras: Real-time video analytics at the device level.	Reduced Latency: Edge computing for real-time data processing.

4. Advantages and Drawbacks of Internet of Things in India

Like other technologies the Internet of Things has been essential to India's development and GDP growth. Nevertheless, there are several difficulties with this, which are listed in Table 6.

Table 6. Pros and Cons of IoT in Indian Context [12, 14].

Advantages of IoT in India	Drawbacks and Challenges in IoT Implementation
Operational efficiency across sectors	Capital-intensive deployment, limiting widespread adoption
Precision farming for increased agricultural yields	High initial investment in infrastructure, sensors, and connectivity
Smart city solutions for sustainable urban growth	Affordability challenges, especially for smaller businesses and rural consumers
Improved healthcare accessibility in rural areas	Digital divide between urban and rural areas, impacting widespread adoption
Aligns with "Make in India" for industrial growth	Security concerns related to data privacy and cyber threats need attention

A multifaceted strategy comprising cooperation between the government, business, and other stakeholders is needed to address the difficulties and disadvantages of deploying IoT in the Indian context. India confronts a number of obstacles to the broad adoption of the Internet of Things (IoT), including socioeconomic and legal issues, technical limitations, and other obstacles [12, 14]. Table 7 lists a few of the major obstacles.

Table 7. Challenges hindering the Widespread Adoption of IoT in India [11,12,14].

Challenges in Widespread Adoption of IoT in India	Description
Infrastructure Limitations	Network Connectivity: Limited and unreliable network connectivity, especially in rural areas, hampers seamless communication for IoT devices.
Data Security and Privacy Concerns	Cybersecurity Risks: Growing concerns about cybersecurity threats as the number of connected devices increases. - Privacy Issues: Concerns about the privacy of

	personal data collected by IoT devices can lead to user hesitancy.
Interoperability Issues	Lack of Standards: Absence of universally accepted standards for IoT devices and communication protocols can lead to interoperability challenges.
High Implementation Costs	Initial Investment: Significant upfront investment required for deploying IoT infrastructure and devices, making it challenging for smaller businesses to adopt.
Skill Shortage	Lack of Expertise: Shortage of skilled professionals with expertise in IoT technologies, hindering implementation and maintenance.
Regulatory and Legal Challenges	Data Governance: Lack of clear regulations and frameworks for data governance in the context of IoT. - Compliance Issues: Challenges in complying with existing regulations, particularly in industries like healthcare and finance.
Power Supply and Energy Efficiency	Energy Consumption: Power supply issues and energy efficiency challenges, especially in remote areas where a consistent power supply is not guaranteed.
Public Awareness and Acceptance	Education and Awareness: Lack of widespread awareness and understanding among the public about the benefits and implications of IoT, leading to hesitancy and resistance to adoption.
Scalability Concerns	Scalability Challenges: Difficulty in scaling up IoT deployments across large and diverse landscapes, particularly when dealing with a massive number of devices and diverse use cases.
Environmental Impact	E-Waste Management: Rapid turnover of IoT devices and challenges in proper disposal and recycling contribute to environmental concerns.

India is able to fully use the potential of these technologies for national development and surmount the obstacles related to IoT adoption by putting these methods into practice. The development of a strong IoT ecosystem in the nation depends on cooperation, investment, and a favorable legal framework.

5. Strategic Importance of IoT for India's Growth

In order to capitalize on its revolutionary potential, numerous states are aggressively integrating the Internet of Things (IoT), which India has embraced. This adoption bears strategic importance for economic development. Using IoT to optimize resource utilization and improve yields, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, for example, have started smart agricultural programs. Using IoT systems for trash monitoring and traffic control, Telangana and Karnataka are leading the way in the field of smart cities. Constructing effective and sustainable urban ecosystems is the national objective that these projects support [13].

Furthermore, in support of the "Make in India" campaign and the nation's industrial development, governments like Tamil Nadu and Gujarat are investigating industrial IoT uses. Telangana and Karnataka are using IoT for better patient monitoring and accessibility in the healthcare industry, which is a crucial area of attention. In order to foster innovation and investment, some governments have developed specialized IoT policies. Though exact numbers may differ, these measures' combined effect can be seen in India's rapidly expanding IoT sector, which is anticipated to greatly boost the country's GDP and create jobs, highlighting the strategic significance of IoT in India's success story [13].

Using creative ideas to solve problems and streamline procedures, a number of significant Indian corporations have been at the forefront of IoT projects. Some important figures and pertinent case studies showcasing effective IoT deployments are as follows:

1. Reliance Jio

- **Initiatives:** Reliance Jio, a telecommunications giant, has been actively involved in IoT initiatives. They provide IoT solutions for smart homes, industries, and agriculture.
- **Case Study:** Jio's partnership with Reliance Retail has led to the development of Jio's Smart Home Solutions, offering IoT-enabled devices for home automation, security, and energy management.

2. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)

- **Initiatives:** TCS is a leading IT services and consulting company that has implemented IoT solutions across various sectors, including healthcare, manufacturing, and smart cities.

- Case Study: TCS implemented an IoT-based healthcare solution for remote patient monitoring. The system tracks vital signs and enables healthcare providers to offer timely interventions, improving patient outcomes.

3. Tech Mahindra

- Initiatives: Tech Mahindra focuses on IoT solutions for various industries, including telecommunications, healthcare, and manufacturing.
- Case Study: Tech Mahindra implemented an IoT-based solution for smart agriculture, enabling farmers to monitor soil conditions, automate irrigation, and improve crop yields.

4. Bosch India

- Initiatives: Bosch is a global technology and services company that actively participates in IoT initiatives, especially in areas like smart cities, automotive solutions, and industrial IoT.
- Case Study: Bosch implemented an industrial IoT solution for predictive maintenance in manufacturing plants. The system analyzes machine data to predict potential failures, reducing downtime and maintenance costs.

5. Wipro

- Initiatives: Wipro, a leading IT services company, provides end-to-end IoT solutions for industries such as healthcare, utilities, and transportation.
- Case Study: Wipro's IoT solution for smart cities includes intelligent street lighting. By deploying connected sensors and analytics, the solution optimizes energy consumption and enhances public safety.

6. HCL Technologies

- Initiatives: HCL Technologies offers IoT solutions across sectors like manufacturing, healthcare, and energy.
- Case Study: HCL implemented an IoT-based energy management solution for a large industrial complex. The system monitors energy usage in real-time, identifies inefficiencies, and suggests optimization strategies.

7. Cisco Systems India

- **Initiatives:** Cisco is a global technology leader providing IoT solutions for networking, cybersecurity, and smart cities.
- **Case Study:** Cisco collaborated with the Jaipur Development Authority to create a smart city framework in Jaipur. The project includes IoT-based solutions for traffic management, waste management, and environmental monitoring.

The many uses of IoT in India, from smart cities and homes to industrial processes, healthcare, and agriculture, are shown by these companies and examples. The influence of IoT technology in numerous industries may be shown by successful deployments, which enhance efficiency, optimize operations, and tackle real-world difficulties.

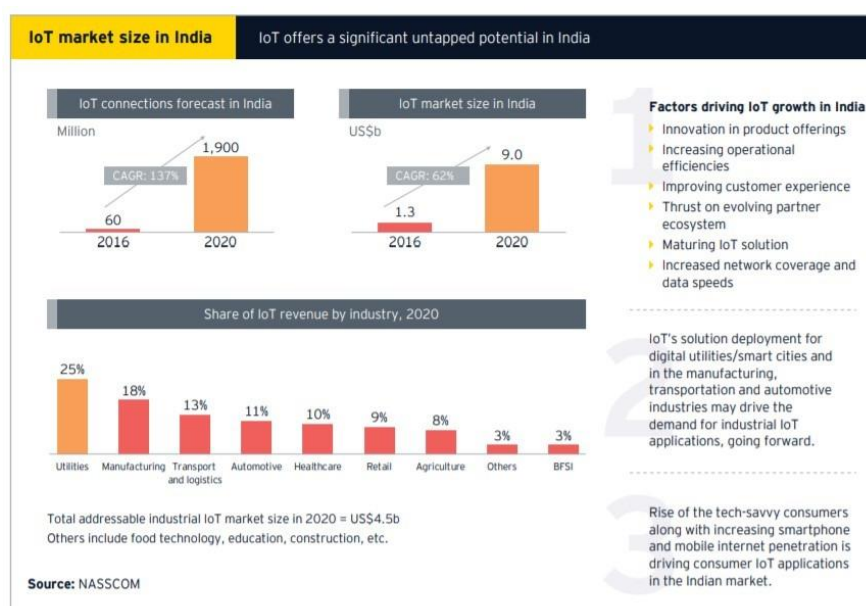


Figure 5. Estimated IoT Market Worldwide [21]

IoT market development in India is anticipated to be substantial in the next few years, according to Statista. It is projected that by 2023, the IoT industry will generate an astounding ₹2,203.00 billion in revenue. The industrial IoT market is expected to reach a value of ₹780.00 billion by 2023, making it the largest of the IoT industry's numerous segments. It suggests that IoT technology is being used in India's automobile industry. Additionally, from 2023 to 2028, the IoT market's revenue is expected to rise by a remarkable 17.05% annually. Therefore, by 2028, it is anticipated that the market volume will reach ₹5,036.00 billion. This expansion demonstrates how IoT technologies are being more widely used and integrated across the nation's industries.

6. Conclusion

The Internet of Things (IoT) in India is expected to develop dramatically in the next few years, affecting smart cities, smart agriculture, smart healthcare, and smart industry. Precision farming has the potential to transform agriculture, boost industrial competitiveness, and improve urban infrastructure as digitalization spreads across India. Tailored Internet of Things solutions will assist rural areas and enhance the healthcare industry. Remote patient monitoring will also help.

This expansion is anticipated to have a major positive impact on India's economy by encouraging innovation, job creation, and general development. Securing strong security and privacy safeguards is crucial, even with a positive outlook. With the increasing prevalence of IoT devices, trust-building and maintenance become more dependent on protecting sensitive data via encryption, secure device management, and compliance with privacy standards.

To sum up, IoT in India has a bright future that will help solve social issues and usher in the digital age. Maintaining this positive trend and guaranteeing a robust and reliable IoT ecosystem that benefits people, businesses, and the country's economic landscape requires a strong emphasis on security and privacy protections.

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