



# Spotlighting India's DIGITAL MISSION Through a Global Lens

As revealed by the State of India's Digital Economy Report 2024, India is the third largest digitised country in the world in terms of economy-wide digitalization.

A keen observer of India's digital journey over the years, Dr. Manjula Pooja Shroff has emerged as a transformative voice at influential United Nations forums and global platforms. Her in-depth knowledge and sharp insights have been pivotal in determining the shift in discussions on sustainability, equity, digital education, and youth empowerment.

If you look at the trailblazing books she has penned—Baby Steps to Big Dreams, Safe Teen Steps, and VUCA Steps, you'll see how she has mastered the art of articulating her vision for India's digital transformation, particularly in the context of early childhood development, teen empowerment, and digital learning evolution.

UN forums continue to draw our attention to the largely unmanned access of adolescents to the digital space. This global phenomenon continues to cause grave concern. We are already witnessing the sobering outcomes of these unfiltered experiences, exacerbated further with the introduction of online learning. Teens are becoming increasingly vulnerable to cyberbullying, misinformation, and mental health struggles.

## EMPOWERING TEENS TO TAKE A REALITY CHECK

In Safe Teen Steps, Dr. Shroff embraces the reality of these challenges—but also offers teens real tools to fight back. Her approach to this growing menace actively reflects an area of



Dr Manjula  
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Kalorex

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UNICEF advocacy: teens need genuine digital literacy, emotional resilience, and confidence to make smart choices when adults aren't watching.

## BABY STEPS TO BIG DREAMS

Dr. Shroff's pithy observations are culled from global conversations on how does one introduce technology without stealing childhood? Her insights resonate deeply with Indian parents who are looking to address the subject from the earliest stages of their child's development.

Dr Shroff's sensitive handling of the issue in her book offers something parents desperately need: permission to be mindful rather than perfect. She seeks to acclimatise families to introduce digital tools that amplify rather than replace the magic of childhood discovery, balancing screen time with creativity and human connection.

## VUCA STEPS AND INDIA'S FUTURE

VUCA—a shorthand concept of Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous—surfaces at many UN forum conversations revolving around the world today's students will inherit. VUCA Steps shows how one can embrace these rather daunting concepts and transform them into actionable experiences for Indian students.

The book not only arms young teens to overcome uncertainty, but it also guides them on how they can thrive in it. It shows students how volatility can be an opportunity, and complexities can be fun puzzles to solve. This approach corresponds well with UNESCO's vision for future-ready education while maintaining crucial cultural relevance.

## PERVASIVE IMPACT OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

India's rising voice in the global digital space is mirrored in its pivot from being a passive participant to transform into trailblazer in digital education and youth empowerment. This is beautifully illustrated by Dr. Shroff's Kalorex-led initiatives which are in perfect sync with India's G20 and G21 education priorities.

Kalorex, an educational organization that operates K–12 schools, preschools, and digital learning platforms, has given Dr. Shroff greater heft to empower students with academic excellence, emotional resilience, and future-ready skills. Kalorex' mission sharply reflects the worldwide call for education that is inclusive, innovative, and transformative.

## EMPOWERING INDIA TO STIMULATE THE DIGITAL RELEVANCE

By taking complex global conversations about the digital world and transforming them into a you-can-do-it mission, Dr. Shroff shows Indian families how they can navigate the digital age with confidence.

That Dr. Shroff's work is of growing relevance in the Indian context, is richly illustrated by her vision of empowering Indian children to shape that world with wisdom, compassion, and unshakeable confidence in their ability to lead. ■