

## Business Potential of SDI in India

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GIS activities in India are by and large dominated by the government agencies barring few private players. The foundation of the GIS lies in integrating various thematic layers to bring out the hidden geographic relationship that helps in decision-making process. Web based spatial data dissemination is not new in India. The fundamental nature of the GIS also does not change. It just becomes online. Technology for creating various online GIS based applications/ services is already prevalent. The factor that hinders the entire system life cycle is the availability of good quality spatial data. With National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) in place, there lies a huge potential to generate business and leverage this as an opportunity to enhance deployment of GIS. In other words, GIS web services have the potential to revolutionise the way GIS technology is developed, accessed and used. While selling the data through the web itself is a business process that will generate revenue to the data-producing agency, there can be many geo- Web services that can actually facilitate applications online. Different thematic layers coming from different NSDI node servers can be integrated together and different functionalities can be provided to satisfy the end user needs.

There are many infrastructure projects from the government, which are opening up new frontiers in telecom and power distribution. Providing location based services to the telecommunication industry, vehicle tracking system, business GIS, real estate, routing services etc. are the emerging applications in Indian context. This paper aims at describing various applications/ geoservices over the web so as to generate business.

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