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## **Recommendations for Manifesto**

*Ministry of Communication and Information Technology*

### **1. Digital Economy & Human Capital**

- a. Launch government–university–industry IT bootcamps in rural provinces
- b. Offer incentives for tech firms to open branches outside Kathmandu
- c. Conduct national skill-gap assessment aligning education and industry demand
- d. Revitalize National IT Parks as Special Economic Zones for startups
- e. Expand CS/IT higher-education seats and introduce advanced programs (AI, Blockchain, FinTech)
- f. Set up R&D incubation centers providing internships and project commercialization pathways

### **2. Infrastructure & Digital Connectivity**

- a. Diversify international bandwidth sources and renegotiate existing links
- b. Decentralize and geographically distribute government data centers
- c. Subsidize rural internet access (including selective pole-rent waivers)
- d. Extend nationwide fiber-optic backbone
- e. Introduce trial international payment mechanisms such as receive-only models
- f. Promote youth innovation through hackathons and competitions
- g. Develop in-house big-data analytics capacity to minimize outbound data dependency
- h. Transition government data centers to renewable-energy-based green facilities

### **3. Cybersecurity & Data Sovereignty**

- a. Expand National CERT and establish 24/7 national SOC
- b. Create provincial level digital forensic laboratories
- c. Implement cross-ministry patch-management policies
- d. Strengthen protection of critical information infrastructure
- e. Launch nationwide cyber-hygiene awareness programs
- f. Establish legal safe-harbor for online government infrastructure.
- g. Develop comprehensive data-protection and consumer-rights legislation

### **4. Legal, Regulatory & Governance**

- a. Establish interoperability standards for data exchange across ministries
- b. Upgrade national digital ID and implement strong e-authentication
- c. Enable end-to-end online company registration and tax compliance
- d. Clarify crypto policy—discourage currency trading while enabling blockchain innovation
- e. Introduce regulatory sandboxes to safely test emerging digital technologies
- f. Ensure alignment with global best practices on privacy and data protection