GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4711
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.03.2023

NATIONAL LEVEL WEB3 STRATEGY

4711. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the economic and technological opportunities that Web3 provides and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has conducted any study to develop and implement a national level Web3 strategy like National Blockchain Strategy 2021 and if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) the details related to any initiatives under the Ministry led mandates of Digital India and Emerging Technologies towards developing the Web3 sector in the country;
(d) whether the Government supports startups that are innovating in the Web3 sector in the form of any incubation or mentorship and if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Government trains or plans to train relevant Government officials in Emerging Technologies such as blockchain and if so, the details thereof.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b): While the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has not conducted any formal study on the economic and technological opportunities that Web3 provides or for developing and implementing a national strategy for the same, it is cognizant of such opportunities and has issued the National Strategy on Blockchain. Blockchain plays an important role in realising Web3, and the said Strategy encompasses major technology components required for Web3.

(c): Blockchain technology is an important component of Web3. Government has undertaken the following research initiatives in the field of blockchain technology:

(i) MeitY has initiated a research project titled “Design and Development of a Unified Blockchain Framework for offering National Blockchain Service and Creation of Blockchain Ecosystem”. The project focuses on evolving the blockchain technology stack for end-to-end blockchain application development, enabling Open Application Programming Interfaces (Open APIs) for seamless integration and offering blockchain-as-a-service (BaaS) over distributed infrastructure.
(ii) The Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain Technology has been set up at National Informatics Centre, Bangalore to provide consultancy and training to government departments for identifying potential use-cases and developing proofs-of-concept and deployable systems.
(iii) The Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has also established a CoE in Blockchain Technology at Gurugram to support and promote innovative startups and entrepreneurs working in blockchain technology.

(d): MeitY promotes technology startups engaged in developing technology solutions related to societal challenges using emerging technologies, including Web3,through the following initiatives:

(i) Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0) Scheme was initiated in the year 2019 to promote tech-entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting information and communication technology startups using emerging technologies, such as technologies related to Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, blockchain, robotics etc.
(ii) MeitY has operationalised 26 CoEs in diverse areas of national interest for driving self-sufficiency and creating capabilities to capture new and emerging technology areas.
(iii) The Start-up Accelerator Programme of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and Growth (SAMRIDH) provides startups with a platform to enhance their products and secure investments for scaling their business.

(e): Yes, Sir. Training in emerging technology, including in blockchain technology, is imparted under the FutureSkills Prime programme of MeitY.

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