

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 552
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 16.09.2020

DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS APPs

552. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to develop indigenous apps and reduce dependence on foreign apps;
- (b) the reasons for recent banning 224 Chinese apps;
- (c) the opportunities provided by the Government to Indian start ups and bright young minds to leverage their intellectual capability and innovative thinking to come up with good indigenous apps?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

- (a): Government of India recently launched the Atmanirbhar Bharat Innovation App Challenge with a vision to promote indigenous Apps towards strengthening India's endeavour for a self-reliant nation. It aims to give a push to Indian App ecosystem through shortlisting of the top Indian Apps that have the potential to become global competitors in their respective categories.
- (b): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has blocked 224 mobile apps under the provisions of section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India and security of State.
- (c): 'MeitY Start-up Hub' (MSH) has been setup under the aegis of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for promoting technology innovation and start-ups. The vision of MSH is to build a conducive innovation ecosystem by bringing together various technology innovation stakeholders. Through MSH portal, more than 2000 tech startups, 350 incubators, 285 mentors, 22 domain specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs) and 25 industry partners have been connected for facilitating criss-crossing of technology resources, sharing best practices and ideas across the entire innovation and startup ecosystem.
