

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *246
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021

DIGITAL APPLICATION STORE OF AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT APP

***246 SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the absence of country's own digital application store, total dependence on Google and Apple for digital services is creating problems in digital services;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is a digital app store for Government – centric apps;
- (c) whether the Ministry would consider having either a single or separate digital application store for Government and private apps to achieve the objective of PM's AatmaNirbhar Bharat App ecosystem; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *246 FOR 18-03-2021 REGARDING
DIGITAL APPLICATION STORE OF AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT APP**

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(a) to (d): The Digital India programme coupled with encouragement being given by the government to promote Indian innovators to create apps has of late become a big movement. In fact India is the largest user of mobile Apps. As per India App Market Statistics report 2021, around 5% apps on Android is from Indian Apps developers. The Government also noted that there has to be a proper Indian App Store for hosting apps free of cost in the initial stages. Accordingly, the Mobile Seva App Store was started which apart from hosting Government apps is also encouraging private apps to come on board. This is also in line with achieve the objectives of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Aatma Nirbhar Bharat mission.

'Mobile Seva Appstore' which is India's first indigenously developed Appstore, is hosting more than 965 live apps from various domains and categories of public services. Uploading and downloading of apps is free of cost and hassle free. Only verified and signed APK files can be uploaded on the Appstore.

While the Government encourages private players to host apps, it is equally keen to develop and encourage its own mobile App Store. The response has been good and the Government wishes to strengthen it further.
