GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJTA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 889
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.02.2018

REVENUE FROM IT SECTOR

889.   DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:
(a)   whether Government has any plan/roadmap to increase the revenue from the Information Technology (IT) sector and if so, the details thereof;
(b)   whether Government is aware of the competition from other countries in IT sector and if so, the details thereof;
(c)   whether Government plans to increase domestic manufacturing of electronic components by incentivizing them and if so, the details thereof; and
(d)   whether Government also plans to increase the availability of computer/IT programming in regional languages across the country and distribute the same free of cost, if so, the details thereof?

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government has taken a series of steps and initiated programmes under the Digital India Initiative for growth of the Information Technology (IT) sector. These include steps to increase domestic Electronic production, BPO promotion schemes for creation of employment opportunities and promotion of BPO/ITeS operations across the country particularly in small cities/towns including rural areas, Digital Payments programme to increase online cashless transactions, setting-up of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in about 2.80 Lakh Gram Panchayats for efficient delivery of Government Services, re-skilling and up-skilling of IT workforce in new and emerging IT technologies, and Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) to bring about digital inclusion.

(b):   Yes, Sir. Many countries are building capabilities and offering incentives to compete in the global market to attract IT investments and operations. These include South Africa and a few countries in South East Asia and Eastern Europe.

(c):   Yes, Sir. The Government has taken concrete steps including introduction of Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP), implementation of Modified Special Incentive Package scheme (M-SIPS) and the Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) scheme to incentivize electronic manufacturing in the country. Research and Development (R&D) initiatives have been launched for "Chips to Systems", design "India Microprocessor", and development of Nano-Electronics and Micro-Electronics.

(d):   Yes, Sir. Under the Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL) and Free & Open Source Software (FOSS) development initiatives of the Government, fonts, drivers, tools, utilities, and standards have been developed and popular software such as Open Office, Libre Office, web browser Firefox, and email client Thunderbird have been localized in all 22

Indian languages including their alternative scripts. These are made available free to public to enable use of computers in local language as well as to develop applications and content.

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