GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 387
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 22.07.2021

'BUILD FOR DIGITAL INDIA' PROGRAMME

387.   SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

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

(a)   whether Government is implementing the 'Build for Digital India' programme in partnership with Google;
(b)   if so, the details including the overall objectives of the programme including targets;
(c)   the implementation mechanism of the programme including the details of different technologies and skills imparted during the programme; and
(d)   central financial assistance outlay of the programme?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology(MeitY) and Google have signed a statement of intent on 31st August, 2019 to roll-out, 'Build for Digital India'. The program aimed at offering a platform to Indian science, technology, and engineering students to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions that address key social problems. This initiative targeted to motivate college students across India to innovate and to produce some good technology solutions for major social challenges of India. The programme had run from 31st August, 2019 to 23rd June, 2020. Students were invited to build digital solutions on any of the following themes namely Healthcare, Agriculture, Education, Smart Cities & Infrastructure, Mobility & Transportation, Women Safety, Digital India, Environment & Sustainable Development Goals, Accessibility & Disability, Digital Literacy, and others. As a part of this, more than 7000 students were enrolled and 1100+ universities were covered across 36 States and Union Territories.

(c): The programme implementation mechanism consists of four phases- Application Phase, Learn and Build Phase, Feedback Phase and Final Showcase Event. Major technology areas covered are Android, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning(AI/ML), Internet of Things(IoT), Cloud and Augmented reality and virtual reality(AR/VR). Major technology platforms covered are Web and Mobile solutions, Hardware & Software solutions, Mobile based solutions and Web based solutions. More than 7000 students from 1100+ universities have participated for the application phase. 3000+ project submissions were done by teams & individuals for the feedback phase of the program. 61 projects were shortlisted to attend the in-person mentorship boot camps across 4 cities in India. Based on feedback shared by the mentors, the top 15 projects were shortlisted for the 'Build for Digital India' pitch event.

(d): The technical support and expert advisories were provided by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. There was no financial assistance provided by the Ministry.

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