

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1838
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 17.03.2017

REVIEW OF POLICIES TO BOLSTER IT SECTOR

1838. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

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

- (a) whether Government is mulling a review of policies which could bolster the Information Technology (IT) sector's sagging fortunes;
- (b) whether Government is considering to set up a committee to study the factors affecting the IT industry and give its recommendations on the possible measures that the Government could take to contain the situation; and
- (c) whether with the international revenues stagnating, Government feels that some policy measures can be taken to kick start domestic demand which will makeup for losses, if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER of STATE for ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Various efforts are being made by the Government in consultation with Information Technology Industry to enhance the domestic market of IT sector. This inter-alia includes measures to streamline the tax regimes, remove red tapism, and improve the overall ease of doing business. However, international revenues from IT sector are indeed growing continuously. The Indian IT-ITES industry has been progressively contributing to the growth of exports and creation of employment opportunities. The total IT-ITES Industry revenue (excluding hardware) is estimated at USD 143 Bn (Rs. 9,61,000 crore) in 2016-17, **including exports** of USD 118 Bn (Rs. 7,90,000 crore) growing at a rate of 8.5 %. According to NASSCOM, IT-ITES exports trends over last 4 years are as follows:-

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (E)
Total in INR Crores	5,27,292	6,00,492	7,00,000	7,90,000

The IT-ITES Industry employs nearly 3.86 million professionals directly and expected to grow to 4.3 million by 2019. Indirect employment is estimated at over 10 million.

- While there is a continuous growth in exports, there are sustained efforts by the Government to further increase exports as well as promote domestic IT-ITES industry. Government has been implementing the Digital India Programme with a view to create a knowledge economy and empower citizens. STP scheme, BPO Promotion schemes, CSC 2.0, Make in India, StartUp India & Skill India Programme have helped in generating demand and jobs at the grassroot level. MeitY has also implemented the NDLM (National Digital Literacy Mission) & DISHA (Digital Saksharta Abhiyan) schemes. The major thrust on less-cash digital economy has led to the emergence of new sectors such as fintech, cyber-security, IOT, big data, data analytics etc.
- To cater to the domestic demand and generate jobs, mobile phone manufacturing has been given a major boost. 72 new mobile handset and component manufacturing units have been set up in the last 18 months. In 2015-16, about 11 crore mobile phones were manufactured, compared to 5.8 crore in 2014-15. 13 Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs) have been approved with a project cost of Rs. 1658 crore in 10 States. Investment proposals worth Rs. 1, 27, 880 crore have been received under Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS). The initiatives under Electronics Manufacturing are expected to generate about 2, 60, 000 jobs.

- The National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT) -2012 envisages to increase revenues of IT/ITES Industry from USD 100 billion during 2011-12 to USD 300 billion by 2020 including exports of USD 200 billion. The key strategies identified in NPIT 2012 include creation of an ecosystem for a globally competitive IT/ITES Industry. As per NASSCOM Perspective 2025, the Indian IT industry is slated for expansion with an annual growth rate of 9 to 11 percent upto 2020 and of 10 to 12 percent from 2020 to 2025. Implementation of Digital India Programme is fulfilling the strategies outlined in the National IT Policy.
