GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2310

TO BE ANSWERED ON: 15.03.2023

MOBILE OPERATING SYSTEM (BharOS)

2310: DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

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

- (a) whether IIT Madras has developed an indigenous mobile operating system named "BharOS" in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the "BharOS" operating system;
- (c) the details of the manner in which this new operating system is likely to be beneficial for the common man in the country;
- (d) the details of the manner in which this operating system will reduce the dependency of smart phone users on foreign operating system like android and apple etc. and how it is different from these operating systems;
- (e) whether the Government has set up any criteria for the different institutions for using BharatOS operating system in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the people to use the indigenous mobile operating system in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Salient feature of the "BharOS" are listed below:

- BharOS Mobile Operating System has been built on a foundation of trust, with a focus on providing users more freedom, control and flexibility to choose and use only the apps which are required.
- BharOS comes with No Default Apps (NDA). This means that users are not forced to use apps that they may not be familiar with or that they may not trust. Additionally, user can choose to only allow apps that they trust to access certain features or data on their device.
- BharOS provides access to trusted apps from Private App Store Services (PASS). PASS provides access to a curated list of apps that have been thoroughly vetted and have met certain security and privacy standards of organisations. This means users can be confident that the apps they are installing are safe to use and have been checked for any potential security vulnerabilities or privacy.

- BharOS offers 'Native Over The Air' (NOTA) updates that can help to keep the devices secure. NOTA updates are automatically downloaded and installed on the device, without the need for the user to manually initiate the process. This ensures that the device is always running the latest version of the operating system, which includes the latest security patches and bug fixes.
- (c) and (d): BharOS is an indigenous mobile Operating System developed with a trusted boot facility. The "BharOS" can work with Private Secure Applications Store to load the applications of user's choice. All these features are crucial for the cyber security and privacy of the end users.
- (e): No, Sir. Government has not set up any criteria for the different institutions for using BharatOS operating system in the country.
- (f): Mobile Operating System is not directly sourced/ procured by the people as mobile operating system is pre-loaded in the mobile devices by the mobile manufactures.
