GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 888
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.02.2018

SWITCH OVER TO INTERNET OF THINGS

888. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: -
(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that by 2019, more than 80 per cent of the organizations in Asia-Pacific region are likely to switch over to Internet of Things (IoT), i.e., devices, appliances, equipments and machines with the capability to connect, communicate and control each other;
(b) if so, the details thereof, including the benefits to Information Technology sector and preparedness in the country for the adoption of IoT by 2019; and
(c) whether the switch over to IoT in the country shall increase additional opportunities for unemployed youth?

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

(a): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) is aware of the revolution that IoT & its related technologies will bring along in coming years. Taking into consideration the same, MeitY had also drafted the IoT Policy for India in year 2016 and since then implementation upon the drafted strategies are in progress. The main aim of the policy is to enable the IoT Ecosystem in India and reap the benefits from upcoming Global and Local IoT Industry. The ecosystem build up includes – IoT Standards Development and Participation from Indian organizations in development of standards, Creation of Incubation Centres for Start-ups , ensuring the upcoming resources (from our post graduate colleges) to be ready to work on IoT and related technologies, etc. Meity has been actively working on supporting the process of creation & building the eco-system for IoT.

Anticipating the promising potential of Machine to Machine Communication (M2M), Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has also released the 'National Telecom M2M Roadmap' as M2M/ IoT based applications in sectors like Transport, Power, Utilities, Logistics, Health, Shipping; Smart City etc. have tremendous potential to bring sustainable value addition to the emerging scenario on continuous basis.

(b): MeitY initiated a Creation of Centres of Excellence (COEs) for IoT which will support entrepreneurship in the area of IoT and also bring-in more awareness on IoT. The main objective of the CoE IoT is to help Indian IoT Startups leverage cutting edge technologies to build market ready product. Through IoT Startups Program, the aim is to build industry capable talent in an entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing Incubation, Funding, Acceleration, Industry Connect and Mentoring. The First CoE has already been established in Benguluru and three more CoEs are to be established at Vizag, Ahmedabad, Gurgaon . This will lead to bringing in of in-house IoT products/services to Indian Market and indirectly help in improving the Indian economy as well. Further, the following are the major benefits of these Centres of Excellence fot IOT to the Information Technology sector:

- Trained manpower
- Innovative Ideas
- Prototypes for new products.
- Future products for cross functional business process enhancement in various industry verticals

(c): Switch-over to IoT in the country will also lead to bringing in of newer IoT based products & services, that will help to bring in more employment automatically for development , integration and support of these products or services. Various skills sets that would be benefited will depend on the domain served by such product or services. In general , IoT will require resources(manpower) to perform System Integrations, Embedded Software development, Creation of sensors and processors & deployment of such products / services. These skills will not only be required in India but will also be required globally.

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