

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 722
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.12.2021

IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL INDIA SCHEME

722. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

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

- (a) the status of implementation of 'Digital India' scheme in the country;
- (b) whether all villages and remote towns of the country have been covered by basic communication/internet services;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the time it will take to cover the entire country; and
- (d) whether Government is providing basic internet facilities to all villages to educate the youth of the country, particularly rural youth, in view of online classes?

ANSWER

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

(a):The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India launched the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge-based economy by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple projects of various Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs. The Digital India programme is centred on three key vision areas namely Digital Infrastructure as a Core Utility to Every Citizen, Governance and Services on Demand and Digital Empowerment of Citizens. Digital India has dramatically reduced distance between Government and citizens significantly. Further, Digital India has also helped in delivery of substantial services to citizens in corruption free manner and directly to the beneficiary. In summary, our mission is to ensure that the digital technologies improve the life of every citizen, expand India's digital economy, generate employment and create digital capabilities in the country. The status of some of the key initiatives undertaken by MeitY under Digital India programme across the country is at Annexure.

(b) to (d): Basic Communication/Internet facility is being provided in rural & remote areas by the Government, Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through a mix of wireless and wireline internet services. As per data provided by Telecom Service Providers and field units of Department of Telecommunications, it is estimated that out of 5,97,618 inhabited villages (as per Census 2011) in the country, a total number of 5,72,551

villages have mobile wireless coverage. Mobile coverage in remaining villages is being provided by the Government and Telecom Service Providers in a phased manner.

Further, in its endeavour to provide high speed internet/broadband connectivity to villages and rural Indians, BharatNet project is envisaged in all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages of the country. As on 01.11.2021, a total number of 1,66,088 Gram Panchayats have been made service ready with broadband infrastructure.

ANNEXURE

The present status of some of the key initiatives undertaken by MeitY under Digital India programme across the country is as follows:

- **Aadhaar:** Aadhaar provides 12 digit biometric and demographic based identity that is unique, lifelong, online and authenticable. Further to give statutory backing to Aadhaar ‘The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016’ was notified on 26th March 2016. Over 131 + crore residents have been enrolled.
- **Common Services Centre (CSC):** The Common Services Centres project aims to set-up at least one CSC at 2.50 lakh Gram Panchayats(GPs) across the country, for delivery of various Government to Citizen(G2C) and other citizen centric e-Services. It is a self-sustainable entrepreneurship model which is run by Village level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). As on Oct, 2021, total 4,18,436 functional CSCs across the country, of which, 3,25,781 are functional at Gram Panchayat (GP) level.
- **Digital locker:** Digital Locker provides an ecosystem with collection of repositories and gateways for issuers to upload the documents in the digital repositories. So far, more than 8.79 crore registered user of DigiLocker. 461 crore authentic documents have been issued. 1460 Issuers and 224 Requestor organizations have been on-boarded.
- **Unified Mobile Application for New-Age Governance (UMANG):** UMANG has been developed as a single mobile platform to deliver major Government services. Currently, 1,317 services from 265 Central/ State Government department/ agencies of 32 States along with 20,330 services of Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) Utility services have been on-boarded on UMANG.
- **e-Sign:** e-Sign service facilitates instant signing of forms/documents online by citizens in a legally acceptable form. The services are being leveraged by various applications using OTP based authentication services of UIDAI. Total e-sign issued are 20.51 Crore and over 4.04 Crore e-Sign issued by CDAC.
- **MyGov:** MyGov is a first-of-its-kind citizen engagement platform for participatory governance in India. MyGov aims to facilitate a dialogue between citizens and Government, bringing citizens closer to the Government and bringing the Government closer to the citizens it serves, via this platform. Presently, over 2.05 crore users are registered with MyGov, participating in various activities hosted on MyGov platform.
- **Digital Village:**MeitY has also initiated the ‘Digital Village Pilot Project’ in October, 2018. 700 Gram Panchayats (GPs)/Village with atleast one Gram Panchayat/Village per District per State/UT are being covered under the project. The digital services being offered are Digital Health Services, Education Service, Financial

Services, Skill Development, Solar panel powered street lights including Government to Citizens Services (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) Services.

- **National Rollout of eDistrict MMP:** e-District is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) that aims at electronic delivery of identified high volume citizen centric services at the district or sub-district level. Total 3,916 e-District services have been launched in 709 districts across 28 States/ 6 UTs.
- **Open Govt. Data Platform:** Open Government Data (OGD) Platform is a platform for supporting Open Data initiative of Government of India. It intends to increase transparency in the functioning of Government and also open avenues for many more innovative usages of Government Data to give different perspective. Currently, 516,213 resources with 402 CDOs of 204 Departments (91 Central & 113 State), designed 11,275 catalogs, 2,544 visualization and developed 1,21,604 APIs.
- **eHospital/ Online Registration System (ORS):** e-Hospital application is the Hospital Management Information System for internal workflows and processes of hospitals. Online Registration System (ORS) as well as e-Hospital applications are hosted at NIC's National Cloud. Currently, 631 Hospitals have been on-boarded on e-Hospital with over 22.46 crore e-Hospital transactions, and ORS has been adopted by 415 hospitals across the country with over 46.19 lakh appointments booked from ORS.
- **JeevanPramaan:** Digital Life Certificate for Pensioners scheme known as JeevanPramaan envisages to digitize the whole process of securing the life certificate. With this initiative, the pensioner is no more required to physically present himself or herself in front of disbursing agency or the certification authority. Over 530.56 lakh Digital Life certificates have been processed since 2014.
- **NCOG-GIS Applications:** National Centre of Geo-informatics (NCoG) project, is a GIS platform developed for sharing, collaboration, location based analytics and decision support system for Departments. So far, 605 applications across various domains are operational.
- **National Knowledge Network:** The Objective of the NKN is to inter-connect all knowledge institutions across the country through high speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. A high speed data communication network has been established to interconnect Institution of higher learning, and research. So far, 1746 links to Institutions have been commissioned and made operational. 517 NKN links have been connected to NIC district centers across India.
- **Pradhan MantriGramin Digital SakshartaAbhiyaan (PMGDISHA):** The Government has approved a new scheme titled "Pradhan MantriGramin Digital SakshartaAbhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 Crore rural households (one person per household). So far, training has been imparted to 4.55 crore candidates and out of this more than 3.38 crore candidates have been certified. The scheme is applicable to all rural areas of the country.
- **Unified Payment Interface (UPI):** UPI is a leading digital payment platform. It powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the "Peer to Peer" collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience. 229 Banks are providing UPI Services.
- **FutureSkills Prime:** MeitY in collaboration with NASSCOM has initiated a programme titled FutureSkills PRIME. The programme is aimed at re-skilling/ up-skilling of IT professionals in 10 new/emerging technologies which include Augmented/Virtual Reality, Internet of Things, Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Robotic Process Automation, Additive Manufacturing/ 3D Printing, Cloud Computing, Social & Mobile, Cyber Security and Blockchain.

- **Cyber Security:** Matters relating to Cyber Laws, administration of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (21 of 2000) (IT Act, 2000) and other IT related laws" comes under the purview of MeitY. While administering the parent IT Act, 2000, MeitY has the specific responsibility to ensure-better internet governance, data protection, cyber security, privacy over the Internet, promotion and regulation of technology companies and promotion of e-governance. India has made it to the top 10 in Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020 launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on June 29, 2021, moving up 37 places to rank as the tenth best country in the world on key cybersafety parameters.
- **BPO Promotion Scheme:** The India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) and North East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) were initiated under Digital India Programme to create employment opportunities for the youth of the country by setting up BPO/ITES operation in smaller cities across the country and North Eastern Region. The BPO Promotion Schemes aimed at incentivising establishment of total 53,300 seats in respect for BPO/ITES operation across the country. Overall, 61,208 seats were allocated to eligible entities to setup BPO/ITES operation under these schemes.
- **Electronics Manufacturing**
 - Modified Special Incentive Package (M-SIPS): As on November, 2021, 308 applications with proposed investment of approximately Rs. 83,958 crore have been approved.
 - Electronic Manufacturing Clusters (EMC): Under EMC scheme, 19 Greenfield EMCs and 3 Common Facility Centres (CFCs) measuring an area of 3,464 acres with project cost of Rs. 3,762 crore including Government Grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,538 crore have been approved in 15 states across the country. Based on closure of receipt of applications under EMC scheme, MeitY notified Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme on 1st April, 2020 for further strengthening the infrastructure base for electronics industry in the country and deepening the electronics value chain. As of now, 2 applications for setting up of EMC over an area of 1,040 acres with project cost of Rs. 1,410 crore including Central financial assistance of Rs. 681.04 crore have been approved.