

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5656
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.04.2022

DIGITAL LITERACY AND NITI AAYOG

5656. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is on track to meet the objective of ensuring 100% digital literacy by 2022 as per the NitiAayog strategy for New India report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor including the revised target/deadline for the said purpose;
- (c) the details of the digital literacy rate in India, gender, urban/rural category and year-wise from 2014 till date;
- (d) the total number of internet subscribers per 100 people in India (rural and urban households); and
- (e) the percentage of urban and rural households that own a computer?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The NITI Aayog Report titled "Strategy for New India @75" inter-alia indicates that India needs to eliminate the Digital Divide by 2022-23. In this regard, it is stated that Skill development and creating skilled talent is an important mission to ensure that the rapidlygrowing Digital Economy of India is provided with the trained and skilled manpower that is required. To further aid digital adoption, the Ministry has focused on digital literacy for citizens since 2014, across the country, especially in rural areas.

Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has taken the following initiatives to expand digital literacy and skills in the country:

- i. In the years 2014 to 2016, two Schemes titled “National Digital Literacy Mission” (NDLM) and “Digital SakshartaAbhiyan” (DISHA) were implemented by the Government with a target to train 52.50 lakh candidates in digital literacy across the country. Under these two schemes, a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were certified.
- ii. In 2017, a scheme titled “Pradhan MantriGramin Digital SakshartaAbhiyan (PMGDISHA)” was approved by Union Cabinet to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). So far, a total of around 5.80 crore candidates have been enrolled and 4.91 crore have been trained, out of which around 3.64 crore candidates have been certified under this scheme.

(c): As per National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) 71st Round report released in June 2015 on social consumption relating to education, the gender-wise details for the age 14 years and above, the ability to operate computer in rural and urban areas was reported as under:

Proportion (per 1000) of population (age 14 years and above) able to operate a computer								
Gender	Rural				Urban			
	Age group (years)							
	14-29	30-45	46-60	60 and above	14-29	30-45	46-60	60 and above
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Male	227	64	22	6	536	309	209	106
Female	135	19	5	1	438	173	87	28
persons	183	41	14	3	489	243	148	68

Further, the National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation conducted a survey on Household Social Consumption: Education as part of the 75th round of National Sample Survey (NSS) from July 2017 to June 2018. As per the report, the gender-wise details of the person having ability to operate computer in the age groups mentioned below in rural and urban India are as under:

Age group of the Person	% Able to operate a Computer			
	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
15-29 years	29.4	17.6	60.6	50.9
15-59 years	16.4	8.6	44.3	31.4

(d): The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communication has informed that as per “The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators” report published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 10th January, 2022, as on 30th September, 2021 there were 37.67 rural internet subscribers per 100 population and 104.75 urban internet subscribers per 100 population.

(e): As per the NSO 75th round of National Sample Survey (NSS) Report only 4.4% in rural households and 23.4% in urban households have a computer.
