

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2649**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 25.03.2022

**KEY INITIATIVES ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**2649 DR. AMAR PATNAIK:**

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

- (a) the details of the key initiatives of Government where Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used;
- (b) the reasons for delay of Cabinet approval towards the National Programme on AI (NAPI);
- (c) whether Government has any proposals to introduce new regulatory laws and mechanisms for AI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Government of India has taken several administrative and policy steps to promote the innovations in Artificial Intelligence. Following are the details:

- i. Government has published the **National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence** in June 2018 and proposes to develop an ecosystem for the research and adoption of Artificial Intelligence i.e. #AIFOR ALL.
- ii. Government has launched '**National AI Portal**' (<https://indiaai.gov.in/>) which is a repository of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based initiatives in the country at a single place. As on date, there are 1024 national and international articles, 655 news, 200 videos, 90 research reports, 279 Startups, 120 Government initiatives listed at National AI Portal.
- iii. **National Programme on Responsible Use of AI for Youth:** With the objective to empower the youth to become AI ready and help reduce the skill gap, government along with Industry partner has started this initiative to promote AI awareness among Government school going children. In Phase I, 50,666 students and 2536 teachers from 2252 schools from 35 States and UTs attended orientation sessions on AI. In Phase II, 100 teams have been short listed and have undergone extensive mentoring by AI experts.

In Phase-III, Top 20 students have demonstrated their solutions in the national conference.

- iv. Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)& NASSCOM has jointly initiated a programme titled **FutureSkills PRIME** ([www.futureskillsprime.in](http://www.futureskillsprime.in)), a B2C framework for re-skilling/ up-skilling of IT professionals in 10 Emerging area including Cloud Computing and Artificial Intelligence. Under this programme so far, 5.63 Lakh

candidates have signed-up on the FutureSkills PRIME Portal, out of which, 1,08,436 candidates have completed their course. In addition, 524 Trainers and 4074 Government Officials have been trained on these technologies by NIELIT/C-DAC Resource Centres, and around 73,206 unique learners have collectively earned 4,64,951 ‘badges’ in recognition of having completed bite-sized digital fluency content.

- v. Government has initiated ‘**Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme**’ with an objective to enhance the number of PhDs in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors including AI in the country. Presently, 908 Full time & 308 part-time PhD candidates are enrolled under the scheme at 97 academic institutions across the country.
- vi. To foster innovation through research, government has created several ‘**Centres of Excellence**’ on various Emerging Technologies including Artificial Intelligence. These centres connect various entities such as startups, enterprises, venture capitalists, government and academia to look into problem statements and develop innovative solutions.
- vii. Department of Science & Technology is implementing the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) to promote R&D, Human Resource Development (HRD), Technology Development, Entrepreneurship Development, International Collaboration etc. As part of the Mission implementation, 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) have been established in reputed institutes across the country in advanced technologies including Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence.
- viii. DBT has also initiated a programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications for Affordable and Accessible Healthcare-Big Data and Genomics.
- ix. Government of India has also joined the league of leading economies including USA, UK, EU, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore as a founding member of the **Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)**, which is an international and multi-stakeholder initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI, grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation, and economic growth.
- x. Government of India organized **Responsible AI for Social Empowerment (RAISE) in 2020**, a first-of-its-kind global meeting of minds on Artificial Intelligence to drive India's

vision and roadmap for social transformation, inclusion and empowerment through responsible AI. It was attended by 79,000+ stakeholders from academia, research, industry and government representatives from 147 participating countries. 320 distinguished speakers from 21 countries participated in the event.

(b): The Cabinet note on the National Programme on AI (NPAI) linked with a formulation of a National Data governance framework & policy; which is under consideration of the Ministry.

(c) and (d): No, Sir.

\*\*\*\*\*

