

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 372
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.02.2021

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

372. SHRI ARUN SAO:

DR. HEENA GAVIT:

SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

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

- (a). the salient features of the schemes being implemented by the Government to increase the access of Information Technology in the country;
- (b). whether efforts are being made by the Government to increase the access of Information Technology to the people living in rural, hilly and far flung areas of the country including Chhattisgarh;
- (c). if so, the details thereof;
- (d). whether effective steps are being taken/proposed to be taken for the decentralization of Information Technology in the country; and
- (e). if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India has initiated the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. 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.

(b) and (c). Some of the key initiatives taken by the Government to make Information Technology accessible to the people living in rural, hilly and far flung areas of the country including Chhattisgarh are as follows:

- **Common Services Centre (CSC):** MeitY has initiated a project namely "Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0" in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme, which envisages setting up of at least one CSC at Gram Panchayat (GP) to cover all the 2.5 lakh

GPs across the country. Common Services Centres are internet enabled centres operated by local entrepreneur, called Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) and provide eServices to rural citizens. Over 300 digital services are being offered by these CSCs. As on December, 2020, the number of functional CSCs (including urban & rural areas) across the Country is 3,73,827 CSCs, out of which, 2,78,048 CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat level. In the state of Chhattisgarh, 13,931 CSCs are functional, out of them, 10,698 CSCs are functional at GP level.

- **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 (Tele-Health & Tele-Veterinary consultation), Education Service, Financial Services, Skill Development, Solar panel powered street lights including Government to Citizens Services (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) Services. 27 villages from Chhattisgarh have been covered under the pilot project for Digital Village implementation.
- **e-District Mission Mode Project (MMP):** e-District project has been implemented at district and sub-district levels of all States/UTs, benefitting all citizens by delivering various e-Services such as Certificates (Birth, Caste, Death, Income and Local Resident), Pension (Old Age, Disability and Widow), Electoral, Consumer Court, Revenue Court, Land Record and services of various departments such as Commercial Tax, Agriculture, Labour, Employment Training & Skill Development etc. e-District services have been launched in 705 districts across 28 States/ 5 UTs. 129 e-services have been launched in all 28 districts of Chhattisgarh.

(d) and (e): National Informatics Centre (NIC), an attached office of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), has its State Centres at State level and District level all over India. These State and District Centres continuously guide and assist various State & District level Government Offices in developing and implementing various ICT applications. NIC also provides various citizen centric services through its products and platforms such as e-Hospital, e-Counseling, Service plus, e-Transport, Jeevan Pramaan, National Scholarship Portal etc for fulfilling aspirations of the citizens.
