INITIATIVES TO ENCOURAGE IT SECTOR IN TAMIL NADU

2014 SHRI P. WILSON:

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

   (a) the policies and initiatives put in place to make Tamil Nadu an IT hub in South Asia;

   (b) the steps Ministry has taken to encourage IT Sector across the country including Tamil Nadu to shift to cloud technology as it reduces IT costs, increases efficiency, improve security, boosts performance, and makes room for innovation and development;

   (c) the steps taken to tackle the problems of job security, job retention, cybersecurity threats, being faced by the IT sector across the country including Tamil Nadu; and

   (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government of India (GoI) has taken various strategic steps and initiatives to promote IT/ ITeS Sector across the country including Tamil Nadu as detailed below:

   i.   Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is instrumental in taking digital technologies across the country. For setting-up of new STPI centeran elaborated policy is in place. As per the policy for setting up of a new STPI centre, the concerned State Government/Centres of Excellence/Higher Educational Institution has to provide Minimum 2 acres of developed land free of cost on long term lease or 50,000 sq. ft. built-up area free of cost on long term lease and a feasibility study would also be required by STPI jointly with the State Government/ Centres of Excellence/ Higher Educational Institution to assess the potential of the location.

   ii.   GoI is implementing Software Technology parks of India (STP) Scheme through STPI, which is a 100% export-oriented Scheme for the development and export of computer software, including export of professional services using communication links or physical media. The export by STPI registered IT/ ITeS Units is increasing on Y-o-Y basis and is stands at $ 80.3 Billion in the FY 2021-22.For promoting IT/ ITeS industry in Tamil Nadu STPI is providing statutory services to 746 units. During FY 2021-22 the total exports reported by these units is Rs. 57,687 Cr.

   iii.   In order to support innovative fintech startups working across financial sectors, STPI has established FINBLUE CoE at Chennai in collaboration with MeitY, Govt of Tamil Nadu, IIT Madras, TiE Chennai and various industry partners such as Intellect Design, NPCI, Yes Bank, PayPal, Pontaq Ventures, RBS, Torus Innovations etc. This CoE targets to onboard 58 start-ups over a period of 5 years with special focus on areas like Trading, Banking, Lending, Remittance, Insurance, Risk & compliance, Wealth advisory, financial inclusions, Saving, Payment and alike.

   iv.   GoI is also establishingiTNT Hub in Chennai with a total outlay of Rs. 54.61 crore with MeitY's contribution of Rs. 27 crores. The Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, Government of Tamil Nadu is the implementing agency for the project. The iTNT Hub will support 200 numbers of start-ups / accelerated in technology space preferably in deep

tech/emerging tech over a period of five years. In addition to that 200 start-ups over a period of five years will be supported in the hub & spoke model.

v. GoI had launched BPO promotion scheme, namely India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) to create employment opportunities and dispersal of Information Technology/ Information Technology Enabled Services (IT/ITeS) industry in small cities and towns including rural areas. The duration of the scheme was up to 31.03.2019, however disbursements may continue beyond this period. Since the inception of this scheme, 227 units have started BPO/ITES operations across 21 States/UTs of the country, providing direct employment to 51,122 persons as on date. Details of BPO units operational in Tamil Nadu is at **Annexure – I**

vi. GoI has initiated Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0) Scheme in 2019 to promote tech entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting ICT startups primarily engaged in using emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Block-chain, and Robotics etc. in seven pre-identified areas of societal relevance. The list of incubation centre functioning as TIDE 2.0 centre in the State of Tamil Nadu is at **Annexure-II.**

(b): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has taken the following initiatives to encourage IT sector across the country including Tamil Nadu to shift to Cloud technology:

i. In order to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud computing Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has embarked upon an ambitious initiative "Government of India Cloud", also named as 'MeghRaj'. The focus of this initiative is to accelerate delivery of e-services in the country while optimizing ICT spending of the Government. To proliferate the "MeghRaj" ecosystem, Government of India has also empanelled the Cloud service offerings of private Cloud Service Providers (CSPs) to meet the Cloud requirements of the Central Government, State Governments and Union Territories including Tamil Nadu.

ii. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has also published several guidelines for the adoption of Cloud services by Central Government, State Governments and Union Territories for Cloud Security, Disaster recovery, Procurement of Cloud services, GI Cloud Reference Architecture, etc. The details of the empaneled CSPs and published guidelines are available at https://www.meity.gov.in/content/gi-cloud-meghraj.

(c) and (d) The Government initiatives mentioned above initiatives to ensure job security and job retention. Further, Government is cognizant and aware of various cybersecurity threats and is committed to ensure that the Internet in India is Open, Safe and Trusted and Accountable for its users. A number of measures have been taken by the Government to enhance India's cybersecurity posture and tackle cybersecurity incidents. These include the following:

(i) Cyber Surakshit Bharat (CSB) programme was initiated in public-private partnership to educate & enable the Chief Information Security Officers (CISO) & broader IT community in Central/State Governments, Banks, PSUs and Government organizations to address the challenges of cyber security.

(ii) MeitY has directed all Central Government Ministries/Departments, State Governments/UTs and associated organisations to appoint Chief Information Security Officer (CISO).Roles & Responsibilities of CISOs have been notified to all stakeholders and also published on MeitY's website.

(iii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is the national nodal agency for cybersecurity incident response. It performs functions related to collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents, forecasting and alerts on such incidents, coordinating response to them, and issuing guidelines, advisories etc. relating to information security practices and procedures.

(iv) A Cyber Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber-attacks and cyber-terrorism, has been formulated by CERT-In, for implementation by all Ministries and Departments of the Central Government, State Governments and their organisations and critical sectors.

(v) On observing an incident, CERT-In notifies the affected organisations along with remedial actions to be taken, and coordinates incident response measures with affected

(vi) Regular training programmes for network and system administrators and the Chief Information Security Officers of government and critical sector organisations are conducted by CERT-In, for securing the information technology infrastructure and mitigating cyber-attacks. A total of 42 training programmes were conducted, covering 11,486 participants, during the years 2021 and 2022.

(vii) CERT-In has been issuing alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks, on an ongoing basis.

(viii) Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre) is operated by CERT-In to detect malicious programs and free tools to remove the same, and to provide cyber security tips and best practices for citizens and organisations.

(ix) The National Cyber Coordination Centre has been set up to generate situational awareness regarding existing and potential cyber security threats. CERT-In shares the tailored alerts with organisations across sectors for proactive threat mitigation actions by them.

(x) CERT-In has empanelled 150 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.

(xi) Cyber security mock drills are conducted to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in the government and critical sectors. 74 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In, in which 990 organisations from different States and sectors participated.

(xii) MeitY conducts programmes to generate information security awareness. Specific books, videos and online materials are developed for children, parents and general users about information security, which are disseminated through portals such as www.infosecawareness.in and www.csk.gov.in.

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Units operational under BPO Promotion Scheme at Tamil Nadu

Sr. No.	Location	No. of Units	Employment Generated
1.	Auroville	2	348
2.	Chengalpattu	2	155
3.	Coimbatore	17	7793
4.	Hosur	3	492
5.	Kotagiri	1	11
6.	Kottakuppam	1	57
7.	Madurai	3	288
8.	Mayiladuthurai	3	547
9.	Namakkal	2	1794
10.	Rajapalayam	2	159
11.	Thiruparankundram	1	81
12.	Tiruchirappalli	4	1321
13.	Tirunelveli	2	74
14.	Tiruppattur	1	160
15.	Tiruppur	1	28
16.	Vellore	2	581
17.	Viluppuram	1	245
	Total	48	14134

Annexure-II

Following 6 incubation centre are functioning as TIDE 2.0 centre in the State of Tamil Nadu:

  i.   FORGE Accelerator (Coimbatore Innovation Business Incubator), Coimbatore
 ii.   PSG Science and Technology Entrepreneurial Park (PSG-STEP), PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore
iii.   IITM Incubation Cell (IIT Madras Incubation Cell), Chennai
 iv.   Vellore Institute of Technology-Technology Business Incubator (VITTBI), Vellore.
  v.   OASYS Institute of Technology, Anna University, Tiruchirapalli
 vi.   Vel Tech Technology Business Incubator, Vel Tech Institute of Science and Technology, Tiruvallur

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