

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1847
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.08.2023

WI-FI AND E-RESOURCES TO UNIVERSITIES

1847. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government has planned to implement a large-scale project to benefit higher learning institutions/universities/hospitals across the country after successfully completing a model project, which provides Wi-Fi and e-resources to five Universities, the Ministry considering that the same was replicable at other higher learning institutions/universities/hospitals across India; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Government of India is implementing the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Wi-Fi connectivity in Universities is one of the programmes under Early Harvest Programme of Digital India.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) was assigned the task to provide Wi-Fi network with modern security features in five Universities to establish the Proof of Concept which could be used for further expansion. The five Universities were Allahabad, Osmania, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Utkal and Pune University. The existing Local Area Network(LAN) at these Universities was old and obsolete and these Universities also lacked Wi-Fi connectivity. Therefore, Wi-Fi LAN was created at these Universities with secure and scalable architecture using the latest wired and wireless technologies. The network was setup with centralized wireless controller and authentication systems for better management, ease of configuration and dynamic environment support with increased flexibility.

MeitY had implemented the model Wi-Fi project in the five Universities through Education and Research Network(ERNET) India, an autonomous Society of MeitY, as a Proof of Concept. Such Wi-Fi network deployment can be considered for adoption on a large scale by the user Ministries/Departments, such as the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
