### INDIA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE OF IT-LED GOVERNANCE

**1855. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICSAND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)     the details of the ground reality on India's preparedness for 6G, AI, IoT and future of IT-led governance;

(b)      the details of the level and degree of participation of India in the last World Mobile Congress held in Barcelona in March 2023;

(a)     the details of the other large-scale IT-led ventures like DBT, UPI Transactions, Fast-tag tolls, etc. in offing; and

(b)     whether India has alternatives for tie-ups since there is a resistance for Chinese companies like Huawei etc. If so, the details thereof?

### ANSWER

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

(a): Digital India was launched with three clear objectives: To transform citizens' lives, governance and democracy; expand the digital economy, create jobs and attract investments; and make India the leader in emerging technologies — a provider rather than a consumer of technology. The Government considers the next decade as 'India Techade', a decade full of technology opportunities for young Indians.

India will shape the future of Emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Advanced Data Analytics, 5G Advanced/6G, Cloud technologies, Quantum technologies, Augmented and Virtual Reality, Additive Manufacturing, Robotics and Blockchain, etc.

As regards India's preparedness for 6G, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has launched on 22nd March 2023 Bharat 6G Vision document to design, develop and deploy 6G network technologies in India; constituted Bharat6G Mission and an Apex Council to lay down the Phase-wise objectives of the 6G Mission, suggest the research and innovation pathways to be explored and review the progress of implementation of Bharat 6G Vision from time to time. Further, Bharat 6G Alliance, an alliance of domestic industry, academia, national research institutions and standards organisations has been launched on 3rd July 2023 to enable India to become a leading global supplier of IP, products and solutions of affordable 5G and 6G and other future telecom solutions. India has played a key role in framing International Telecommunication Union 6GVision Framework.

AI is a kinetic enabler of the Trillion-dollar digital economy and innovation ecosystem. Regarding India's preparedness for Artificial Intelligence (AI), Government is taking all necessary steps to develop a robust AI ecosystem in the country. The Government has published the National Strategy for AI in June 2018 and proposes to develop an ecosystem for the research and adoption of AI. Subsequently, several initiatives have been undertaken for promotion of AI in the country, viz; National Program on Artificial Intelligence; National AI Portal; and AI Research, Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform (AIRAWAT). India is a founding member of Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), having joined the multi-stakeholder initiative on June 15, 2020. India has been entrusted with the responsibility of incoming council chair of the GPAI in November 2022.Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

(MeitY) has completed the public consultation of Draft National Data Governance Policy. MeitY has also established Centres of Excellence in various emerging technologies, including AI and IoT.

(b): An industry delegation led by the Additional Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT), among others, participated in the Mobile World Congress held in Barcelona in March, 2023. The delegation had bilateral meetings with countries like Germany, Poland, Mozambique, Magnolia, Uganda, Finland, Malawi and Indonesia to promote exports of designed and developed products from India. The DoT subsidized participation of 39 Startups /Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Mobile World Congress.

(c): The rapid digitalisation and technology enabled transformative initiatives such as DigiLocker, Unified Mobile Application for New-Age Governance (UMANG), Common Service Centres, MyGov, Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) Scheme, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App, etc. have considerably bridged the distance between Government and citizens and enhanced trust on government and governance. It has also helped in the delivery of services directly to beneficiaries in a transparent manner. In the process, India has emerged as one of the pre-eminent nations of the world to use digital technology to transform the lives of its citizens.

The UPI transactional data is as follows:

|  | Volume (Million) | Value (Rs. in crore) |
|---|---|---|
| FY 16-17 | 17.86 | 6,952.14 |
| FY 17-18 | 904.87 | 1,09,831.80 |
| FY 18-19 | 5,391.52 | 8,76,970.72 |
| FY 19-20 | 12,518.61 | 21,31,730.14 |
| FY 20-21 | 22,330.70 | 41,03,653.60 |
| FY 21-22 | 45,967.50 | 84,17,572.50 |
| FY 22-23 | 83,751.10 | 1,39,20,675.20 |
| Apr'23 | 8,898.14 | 14,07,007.55 |
| May'23 | 9,415.19 | 14,89,145.50 |
| June'23 | 9,335.06 | 14,75,464.27 |

FASTag is an electronic toll collection system in India. The aim of National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC) program is to facilitate seamless movement by offering ETC services across all tolled roads in India. Till date, a total of 1,297 Toll Plazas have been on-boarded in the country.

(d): In order to overcome resistance for Chinese companies like Huawei etc., Government has been actively supporting the indigenous development and implementation of 4G and 5G technologies. India has designed and developed its own 4G and 5G telecom technology stacks for deployment in telecom networks. Numerous prominent private companies and several MSMEs are currently engaged in the advancement of 5G technology. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has taken the initiative of inviting these companies to conduct 5G Proof of Concepts (PoCs).