

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 978
ANSWERED ON - 31/07/2024

Promotion of Artificial Intelligence

978 Shri Sandosh Kumar P:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the increasing importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various sectors;
- (b) if so, whether Government has initiated any plans to promote the teaching of AI in schools and colleges across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the details therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recognises the role and importance of curricular and pedagogical initiatives, including the introduction of contemporary subjects such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) to develop such skills in students at all levels.

Government has taken various initiatives to expand India AI ecosystem and connect the Artificial Intelligence (AI) opportunities to the youth of the country. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had introduced 'Artificial Intelligence' in its affiliated schools in the year 2019. The objective of the AI curriculum is to develop a readiness for understanding and appreciating Artificial Intelligence and its application in our lives. Artificial Intelligence is offered as a 12 hour module in class VIII and as a skill subject in classes IX to XII. Realising the need to promote multidisciplinary education in the emerging areas, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has incorporated Artificial Intelligence (AI) component in all IT related courses. Also, minor in AI, Data Science, Machine Learning and Robotics has been suggested to universities which can be run along with other core area of engineering.

For realizing the vision of “Make AI in India and Make AI work for India”, Government has approved establishment of three Centers of Excellence (CoE) in Artificial intelligence (AI), one each in the area of Agriculture, Health and Sustainable cities with a total financial outlay of Rs. 990.00 Cr over the period of FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28.

Government has initiated 'Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme with the objective to enhance the number of PhDs in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors including AI and Emerging Technologies. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated "Future Skills PRIME" a programme for Re-skilling/ Up- skilling of IT Manpower for employability in 10 new/emerging technologies. These includes AI, Blockchain, Robotics, Big Data & Analytics, IoT, Virtual Reality, Cybersecurity, Cloud Computing, 3D Printing and Web 3.0.
