

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 453**  
ANSWERED ON 28/11/2024

**INCLUSIVITY IN GEOSPATIAL DATA UTILIZATION**

453 Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified specific regions or sectors in Telangana that have yet to benefit equally from the expanded access to geospatial data under the National Geospatial Policy (NGP);
- (b) if so, measures being taken to ensure equitable access to geospatial technology for underrepresented regions and industries in Telangana, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any assessments have been conducted to evaluate the global competitiveness of Indian geospatial companies, including those from Telangana, following the implementation of the NGP; and
- (d) if so, details of findings of these assessments and any specific measures planned to support further international competitiveness?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (b): One of the objectives of the National Geospatial Policy, 2022 (NGP) is enabling easy availability of valuable Geospatial data collected utilizing public funds, to businesses and general public across the country, including the State of Telangana. To meet this objective, the NGP envisages operationalization of a National Geospatial Data Registry (NGDR) for efficient access to the Geospatial Data by all stakeholders in the country and a Unified Geospatial Interface (UGI) for provision of consumer-oriented products, applications, services and solutions using the Geospatial data and metadata contained in the NGDR. For developing an exchange for Geospatial data, a Proof of Concept (PoC) project has been awarded to the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. Further, the 'Operation Dronagiri' has been launched as a pilot project with aim to create digital public goods/services, using geospatial data, for sustainable socio-economic impact and ensure availability and accessibility of Geospatial data for users.

(c) to (d): No such assessment has been conducted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) so far. However, as mandated by the NGP, a Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee (GDPDC) has been established at national level as an apex body for formulating and implementing appropriate guidelines, strategies and programs for promotion of activities related to Geospatial sector. One of the functions of the GDPDC is to make recommendations to DST for promoting and enabling investment in the Geospatial sector and creating a conducive environment that encourages competitive excellence in providing Geospatial data, applications, services and solutions.

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