

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 542
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 29.11.2024

STATUS OF DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

542#. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:

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

- (a) the current status of implementation of Digital India programme; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to promote digital literacy in Jharkhand?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a): Government has launched the Digital India programme with the vision of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge-based economy, by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. The programme is centred on three key vision areas, namely digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen, governance and services on demand, and digital empowerment of citizens. The overall goal is to ensure that digital technologies improve the life of every citizen, expand India's digital economy, and create investment and employment opportunities.

Digital India has considerably bridged the distance between the 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 and corruption-free manner. Details of some of the key initiatives under Digital India are at Annexure.

(b): Under the Digital India Programme, the Government approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India with a target to cover 6 crore rural households (one person per household) across the country. Against the total target, more than 7.35 crore candidates were enrolled and 6.39 crore candidates were trained under the PMGDISHA Scheme across the country. The training under the PMGDISHA Scheme has been officially concluded on 31.03.2024. In the state of Jharkhand, more than 27.52 lakh candidates were enrolled and 22.86 lakh candidates were trained under the PMGDISHA Scheme.

The present status of some of the key initiatives undertaken under Digital India programme are as follows:

- **Internet connectivity:** Basic communication / Internet connectivity is provided in the country by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Internet Service Providers, through wireless mobile and fixed wire line connections. As per information furnished by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), based on data provided by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Department of Telecom field's unit as of September'2024, out of 6,44,131 villages in the country (village data as per Registrar General of India), around 6,22,840 villages are covered with (2G/3G/4G) connectivity and 6,14,564 villages are covered with 4G Technology.
- **BharatNet:** BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages, including tribal areas. The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized to provide broadband services, such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc. On 04.08.2023, the Union Cabinet has approved the Amended BharatNet Program (ABP), for providing connectivity to 2,64,554 GPs includes the existing GPs those are already Service Ready. As of Oct-2024; 2,14,283 GPs have been made service ready under BharatNet project in the country.
- **National Knowledge Network:** National Knowledge Network ('NKN') carries the digital-traffic of National/state Data Centres (NDCs/SDCs), State-Wide Area Networks (SWANs) and provides connectivity to various Digital India initiatives. It also carries digital-traffic of various G2G (Government to Government) and G2C (Government to Citizen) services. NKN also inter-connects all knowledge institutions across the country through high-speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. So far, 1,802 links to institutions had been commissioned and made operational under NKN.
- **BHASHINI:** BHASHINI aims to transcend language barriers, ensuring that every citizen can effortlessly access digital services in their own language. Using voice as a medium, BHASHINI has the potential to bridge language as well as the digital divide. Launched by Honourable Prime Minister in July 2022 under the National Language Technology Mission, BHASHINI aims to provide technology translation services in 22 scheduled Indian languages.
- **National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM):** During the years 2014 to 2016, the Government of India had implemented two Schemes for providing digital literacy to the masses namely "National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM)" and "Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA)" with accumulative target of 52.50 lakh persons (one person from every eligible household) across the country including rural India. Under these two schemes, a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were trained, out of which around 42% of candidates were from rural India. Both schemes have been closed now.
- **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA):** In order to improve the digital literacy rate, especially in rural India, the Government of India implemented a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household) across the country. As on 31st March 2024, as against a total target of covering 6 crore beneficiaries, more than 7.35 crore candidates were enrolled and 6.39 crore were trained, out of which 4.78 crore candidates were certified under the PMGDISHA Scheme across the country. The training & certification under the PMGDISHA Scheme has been officially concluded on 31.03.2024.
- **MeitY in collaboration with NASSCOM** has initiated a programme titled **FutureSkills PRIME**. The programme is aimed at re-skilling/ up-skilling of IT professionals in 10 new/ emerging technologies which include Augmented/Virtual Reality, Internet of Things, Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Robotic Process Automation, Additive

Manufacturing/ 3D Printing, Cloud Computing, Social & Mobile, Cyber Security and Blockchain.

- **Skill Development in Electronics System Design Manufacturing (ESDM) for Digital India:** The Government has approved Scheme for “Skill Development in ESDM for Digital India” to facilitate creation of an eco-system for development of ESDM Sector. The scheme was approved with a total target of 3,28,000 candidates for implementation in 32 States/UTs.
- **Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA):** It is the world’s largest, most diverse school education platform. As on 22nd July 2024, 556.37 crore learning sessions have been imparted using DIKSHA. It has achieved 17.95 crore course enrolments and 14.37 crore course completions.
- **Aadhaar:** Aadhaar is the world’s largest digital identity programme that provides biometric and demographic-based unique digital identity; which can be authenticated anytime, from anywhere and also eliminates duplicate and fake identities. As on date, 138.64 Crore Aadhaar numbers have been generated.
- **Common Services Centres – CSCs** are offering government and business services in digital mode in rural areas through Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). Over 800 services are being delivered through CSCs, including government services, financial services and services related to Aadhaar, various social welfare schemes, education, tele-medicine, travel bookings, utility payments. So far, 5.91 lakh CSCs are functional across the country(rural + urban), out of which 4.69 lakh CSCs are functional at the Gram Panchayat(rural) level.
- **DigiLocker:** It is a platform for issuance and verification of documents & certificates digitally. It has facilitated more than 34.95 crore users and made available 776 crore issued documents. Several fintech companies, working on banking and financial sector, are using DigiLocker for easy on boarding of users.
- **Unified Mobile App for New-Age Governance (UMANG):** UMANG is unified platform for all Indian Citizens to access pan India e-Gov services ranging from Central to Local Government bodies and other citizen centric services. Currently, 2,057 services from 207 Central/State/UT departments have been on-boarded on UMANG.
- **myScheme:** myScheme is a National Platform that aims to offer one-stop search and discovery of the Government schemes. The platform helps the citizens to find the right Government schemes for them. It also guides on how to apply for different Government schemes. So far, there are a total of 2,770 schemes published out of which Central government schemes are 520 whereas State/UT government schemes are 2,230.
- **Unified Payment Interface (UPI):** It is India’s leading digital payment platform. In the month of October, 2024 alone more than 1,658 crore financial transactions were done using UPI. By making digital payment platform technology and device agnostic, UPI has contributed to financial inclusion up to the grassroot level.
- **e-Sign:** e-Sign service facilitates instant signing of forms/documents online by citizens in a legally acceptable form. The services are being leveraged by various applications using OTP based authentication services of UIDAI. More than 79.84 Crore e-Sign issued by all ESPs.
- **MyGov –** It is a citizen engagement platform that is developed to facilitate participatory governance. Presently, over 2.76+ crore users are registered with MyGov, participating in various activities hosted on MyGov platform.
- **MeriPehchaan –** National Single Sign-on (NSSO) platform called MeriPehchaan has been launched in July 2022 to facilitate / provide citizens ease of access to government portals. Currently 12,068 services of various Ministries/States have been integrated with NSSO.
- **e-Hospital/ Online Registration System (ORS) -** e-Hospital application is the Hospital Management Information System for internal workflows and processes of hospitals. Currently, 694 Hospitals have been on-boarded on e-Hospital and ORS has been adopted by 720 hospitals across the country with over 74 lakh appointments booked from ORS.
- **eSanjeevani -** National Telemedicine Service of India is a step towards digital health equity to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC). eSanjeevani facilitates quick and easy access to doctors and medical specialists from your smartphones. Over 30.87 Crore

patients at over 129,200 Health & Wellness Centers (as spokes) through 16,360+ hubs and over 660 online OPDs serviced by more than 225,000 doctors, medical specialists, super-specialists and health workers as telemedicine practitioners

- **CO-WIN** - It is an open platform for management of registration, appointment scheduling & managing vaccination certificates for Covid-19. It has registered 110 crore persons and has facilitated administration of 220 crore doses of vaccinations.
- **Jeevan Pramaan:** Jeevan Pramaan envisages to digitize the whole process of securing the life certificate for Pensioner. With this initiative, the pensioner is no more required to physically present himself or herself in front of disbursing agency or the certification authority. Over 960.88 lakh Digital Life certificates have been processed since 2014.
- **Open Government Data Platform**– To facilitate data sharing and promote innovation over non personal data, Open Government Data platform has been developed. More than 5.04 lakh datasets across 12,434+ catalogues are published. The platform has facilitated 104.90 lakh downloads.
- The Government had launched the India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) and the North East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) under the Digital India programme, with the aim of creating employment opportunities and dispersal of the Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) industry in small cities and towns by incentivising the setting up of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) and ITES operations by providing financial support of up to ₹ 1 lakh per seat in the form of viability gap funding towards capital and operational expenditures. Under IBPS and NEBPS, 246 BPO/ITES units have started operations covering 27 States/UTs and are providing direct employment to over 51,584 persons.
- **TIDE 2.0 Scheme: Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0)** Scheme was initiated in the year 2019 to promote tech entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting ICT startups using emerging technologies such as IoT, AI, Block-chain, Robotics etc. The Scheme is being implemented through 51 incubators through a three-tiered structure with an overarching objective to promote incubation activities at institutes of higher learning and premier R&D organisations. More than 1,220 startups supported across 51 Incubation Centres.
- **MeitY Startup Hub (MSH):** MSH is assisting incubators and startups improving their scalability, market outreach, etc. and has also established partnerships with various stakeholders paving the way for an economy built on innovation and technological advancement. MSH has seen a consolidation of over 5184+ startups, 485+ incubators, 475+ mentors, and 43 state of the art Centres of Excellence (CoEs) on boarded onto the platform.
- Under the Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) and EMC 2.0 Schemes, 24 EMC projects and 4 Common Facility Centres (CFCs) have been approved in 19 states across the country.
- Apart from these projects/ schemes, the Government is implementing various schemes to augment production, employment and promote Atma Nirbhara through the PLI Scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing, PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware, Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components (SPECs), Electronic Manufacturing Clusters 2.0, India Semiconductor Mission including the Development of Semiconductors & Display Fab Manufacturing Ecosystem, etc.
