ROADMAP FOR EXPANDING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND AI-DRIVEN GOVERNANCE FOR 'VIKSIT BHARAT' 2047

3249. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a roadmap for expanding digital public infrastructure and AI-driven governance as part of the 'Viksit Bharat 2047' vision;
(b) if so, the key milestones set for the next decade;
(c) the steps taken to ensure equitable access to digital services across rural and urban areas;
(d) whether the Ministry is actively collaborating with other Ministries/NITI AAYOG towards achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India launched the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge-based economy by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide.

As a part of Viksit Bharat 2047 vision to make India a developed country, Government of India has emphasized on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and AI governance roadmap. Govt. of India has successfully implemented foundational DPIs at population scale for identity (Aadhaar), for payment (UPI), for data exchange (DigiLocker and API Setu), the focus of the Government is to replicate the success of foundational DPIs in priority domains and therefore, new DPIs in domains such as credit, e-commerce, education, health, law and justice, logistics, MSME, agriculture, service delivery, urban governance, etc. are being worked out and scaled.

India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) has redefined digital innovation by combining public funding with public and private sector-led innovation. Platforms like Aadhaar, UPI, and DigiLocker serve as the foundation, while entities build application-specific solutions on top of them. This model is now being enhanced with AI, integrating intelligent solutions into financial and governance platforms. The global appeal of India's DPI was evident at the G20 Summit, where several countries expressed interest in adopting similar frameworks.

DPI plays a critical role in the advancement of AI by providing high-quality public data sets. Artificial Intelligence is being utilised in sectors like Agriculture, Healthcare, Education, Railways, Governance & Administration, Earth Science, Energy & Power, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Transportation and Law & Justice by various central and state governments departments and organizations.

The Government of India emphasizes the concept of 'AI for All,' aligning with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratise use of technology. This initiative aims to ensure that AI benefits all sectors of society, driving innovation and growth. The government's approach focuses on leveraging AI for economic growth and development while fostering a

robust AI ecosystem. In this regard, Union Cabinet led by Hon'ble Prime Minister has approved the IndiaAI Mission on 7th March 2024, a strategic initiative to establish a robust and inclusive AI ecosystem that aligns with the country's development goals. This mission is driven by a vision to position India as a global leader in artificial intelligence by focusing on seven foundational pillars namely; IndiaAI Compute Capacity, IndiaAI Innovation Centre, IndiaAI Datasets Platform, IndiaAI Application Development Initiative, IndiaAI FutureSkills, IndiaAI Startup Financing, and Safe & Trusted AI.

(c): Digital India initiatives are accessible through mobile and by virtue of that, it bridges the urban rural divide. 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. More than 6.39 crore individuals were trained across the country. Common people of India can access the Digital India services such as digital education, digital health, digital payment, e-court facilities from anywhere anytime basis. UMANG, one mobile application for all government services, is operational and offers 2000+ services for individuals. In order to support assisted mode of service delivery, over 5.97 lakh Common Services Centres (CSCs) are functional across the country (rural + urban), and these centres serve the people in rural and semi urban area to avail over 800 digital services near to their locality. Additionally, the Bhashini platform, a national language translation DPI, addresses communication barriers for India's diverse population. This fosters greater access to digital tools for underserved communities.

(d) and (e): MeitY is actively engaged with NITI Aayog as well as other Ministries on Digital and Emerging Technology enabled Initiatives towards achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047. MeitY is building and continuously supporting other Ministries/ departments in building digital platforms which aim at changing the entire paradigm of Digital Government, and making the services seamless, easily accessible, improve the ease of living and doing business.

MeitY has facilitated development of PM Gati Shakti (an important instrument to track progress of National Master Plan) and continues to provide operational and maintenance support to it. PM Gati Shakti has onboarded 44 Ministries and 36 States and UTs. MeitY's digital initiatives such as DigiLocker, UMANG, API Setu, Poshan Tracker, DIKSHA, etc cut across multiple central Ministries / Departments and states and union territories.

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