GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 548
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

PROMOTION OF BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM

548. SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

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

(a)   the steps taken and planned to promote the development of a blockchain technology ecosystem in the country;
(b)   the steps taken and planned to increase awareness of the applications of blockchain technology among non-adopting State Governments;
(c)   Government Departments that are formally considering adopting blockchainbased solutions in the next five years;
(d)   whether Government has received notice of the shortage of skilled blockchain developers in the country; and
(e)   if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken and planned to address the shortage of skilled blockchain developers in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b):Blockchain is a distributed ledger technology wherein digital transactions are transparent, immutable and verifiable with authentic audit trail of transactions. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated various programmes/ schemes to promote the development of a blockchain technology ecosystem in India.

MeitY, launched the Vishvasya- Blockchain Technology Stack to offer blockchain-as-a-Service with geographically distributed infrastructure for enabling various permissioned blockchain based applications in September 2024. The Technology Stack is hosted on geographically distributed infrastructure at National Informatics Centre (NIC) Data centres at Bhubaneswar, Pune, and Hyderabad. Under this initiative, a complete Blockchain Technology Stack with necessary hardware & software infrastructure for end-to-end development & deployment of blockchain based applications has been evolved. The technology stack reduces the complexity involved in development and facilitates faster setup of Blockchain applications.

MeitY along with Vishvasya team has conducted several workshops & seminars to sensitize the benefits of blockchain technology for various stakeholders including the Central and State Government departments and leverage the stack for development of blockchain based applications relevant to their ministries.

MeitY in collaboration with Govt. of Haryana, Padup Venture Private Limited and Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has initiated a Centre of Excellence (CoE) named APIARY in STPI Gurugram. This is an initiative to support promising start-ups in the field of blockchain technology. The CoE is an incubation-cum-accelerator through which infrastructure, technology, mentoring, training for product development & product management in the blockchain technology area are made available.

(c): The various Government Departments have shown interest/ deployed Blockchain based solutions in their relevant use cases. Some of them are:

- Blockchain based solution for tracking the entire lifecycle of an e-Stamp paper for Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India, Ministry of Finance.
- Blockchain technology in Pradhan Mantri BharatiyaJanaushadhiPariyojana for Department of Pharmaceuticals.
- Blockchain based solution for storing the service training records of IPS officers for Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVP NPA).
- Blockchain based solution for securely storing bail orders issued by Supreme Court of India.
- Blockchain based solution for tracking coffee produce for Ministry of Commerce.
- Blockchain based property registration system for Govt. of Karnataka, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh.
- Blockchain based solution for education certificate for Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

(d) and (e): FutureSkills PRIME initiative of MeitY creates awareness and generates skilled manpower in the domain of blockchain.

Centre for Development of Advanced Technology (C-DAC) is offering a short-term online course on blockchain Application Developed through the platform "C-DAC's HARmonized Industry skilling program through Online Training - CHARIOT". National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) also offers courses in blockchain to generate skilled manpower.

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