

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *67
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.07.2026

STATUS OF IT SECTOR IN WEST BENGAL

***67. SHRI BISWAJIT SINHA (RAHUL SINHA):**

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

- (a) the number of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) units operational in West Bengal and the IT exports generated, in comparison to States like Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether West Bengal's share of national IT exports has declined over the last decade despite having a large pool of technical graduates;
- (c) whether the West Bengal Government's industrial and investment policies have been identified as a deterrent to IT sector investment; and
- (d) the steps proposed by the Ministry to revive Kolkata as an IT/ITES hub and create employment for West Bengal youth?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *67 FOR 24.07.2026 REGARDING “STATUS OF IT SECTOR IN WEST BENGAL”

(a) to (d): India's IT sector's annual revenue is estimated to be over \$315 billion. IT services worth around USD 246 billion are exported by India. More than 33,000 startups in the country are technology startups, the third-largest startup ecosystem globally. The sector also provides direct employment to around 60 lakh professionals.

Recognising this sector as a key driver of economic growth, Government of India is implementing several initiatives and programs to further expand the sector.

Digital India programme has expanded high-speed internet connectivity and digital infrastructure across the country. This has created a larger market for digital services. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) such as Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, API Setu and BHASHINI has enabled innovation and created opportunities for IT companies and startups.

Software Technology Park (STP) is also one such important scheme.

STPI

Under this scheme, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) has established 73 centres across the country. This includes 65 in Tier-II and Tier-III cities.

STPI supports startups through plug-and-play incubation, mentoring, Centres of Entrepreneurship (CoEs), networking and market access. 24 domain-specific Centres of Entrepreneurship are also operated by STPI.

STPI has supported more than 1600 startups through various schemes/programs. The total software exports achieved by STPI-registered units is approx. Rs. 12,58,443 crore in FY 2025–26.

5 centres are located in West Bengal at Kolkata, Durgapur, Kharagpur, Siliguri and Haldia. Employment of more 81,000 persons have been generated from these centres. In last 10 years, exports from STPI registered units in Kolkata have also more than doubled.

Number of STPI registered units and IT exports generated by STPI registered units in West Bengal, Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu are as follows:

Sl. No	State	STPI registered units	Exports in 2025-26* (₹crore)
1	West Bengal	204	16,524.64
2	Karnataka	1780	5,42,919.67
3	Telangana	731	1,64,809.38
4	Tamil Nadu	1232	1,04,302.22

*Estimated value of exports.

To promote the investment in the IT/ITES sector of West Bengal, the state government is also providing incentives for IT parks, electronics manufacturing and startups. As per the budget statement of West Bengal for FY 2026-27, key initiatives areas follows:

- State has developed 32 IT parks and buildings, providing modern infrastructure for IT and ITES companies.
 - With 9.37 lakh square feet of built-up space, these facilities have created employment opportunities for thousands of IT professionals, strengthening the digital economy.
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- Bengal Silicon Valley Tech Hub (250 acres at New Town, Kolkata) with data centres of installed capacity of 22 MW and expansion capability of 60 MW, is expected to attract over ₹30,000 crore of investments and generate around 75,000 jobs, making it one of the state's flagship technology projects.
 - Further, a state-of-the-art Data Centre has been established in Siliguri with advanced AI capabilities.
 - This initiative promotes Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning research and encourages collaboration among startups, academia, and industry. The Government is also actively promoting AI adoption across various sectors.
 - The State is expanding its digital infrastructure through data centre policies, cable landing station policy, and a GCC Policy to attract technology investments.

The Government has also launched initiatives like FutureSkills PRIME, which focuses on training youth in emerging technologies. These include AI, Data Analytics, Cloud Computing, cyber security, etc., providing cutting-edge digital training for employment opportunities.

Under the programme so far over 34 lakh candidates have signed up on the FutureSkills PRIME portal. Of these, over 23 lakh candidates enrolled/trained in various courses, out of which over 13 lakh candidates have completed their courses.

This includes 40% women candidates and more than 85% candidates from Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. Under FutureSkills PRIME, 43000 candidates have been trained in West Bengal.

Further, Government of India also supports the startup ecosystem in West Bengal through its initiatives like Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups (GENESIS), Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0) and The Startup Accelerators of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and Growth (SAMRIDH).
