

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 707
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.07.2026

DIGITAL INDIA INITIATIVES IN ODISHA

707. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

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

- (a) the details of Digital India projects being implemented in Odisha;
- (b) the funds allocated and released till date;
- (c) the details of Common Service Centres (CSCs) and other digital service centres functioning in the State, district-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to improve digital access and e-governance in rural and tribal areas of Odisha?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): In line with Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratise technology and empower citizens, the Government of India had launched the Digital India programme in July, 2015.

At its core, the programme promotes three interconnected goals: strengthening digital infrastructure, delivering government services digitally, and empowering citizens through digital literacy and employment.

The Government has implemented several initiatives and policy measures to improve digital access and e-governance across the country including rural and tribal areas of Odisha. Details of some of the key initiatives are as follows:

Digital Connectivity and Digital Infrastructure: Digital India has contributed to the rapid expansion of internet access, through initiatives such as BharatNet, which aims to provide high-speed internet to rural and remote areas. As a result, there has been a substantial increase in internet accessibility and usage across the country, and internet penetration in India has grown in the last decade.

- **Telecom, Internet & Broadband Penetration:** Total telephone connections in India grew from 93.3 crores in March 2014 to 116.69+ cr in March 2022 to 133+ crores in March, 2026. In Odisha, the total number of telephone subscribers has crossed 3.93 crore.

- Internet subscribers jumped from 25.15 crore in March 2014 to 82.48 cr in March 2022 to 109.27 crore in March, 2026. In Odisha, the total number of internet subscribers has crossed 3 crore.
- **BharatNet - Linking Villages to the Internet:** As of June 2026, about 2.21 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made service ready under BharatNet project in the country including 2954 GPs in Odisha.
- Under the Government-funded 4G Saturation Project and other mobile connectivity projects, till June 2026, 3726 mobile towers have been commissioned in Odisha.
- As on 30.06.2026, total of Rs. 3,471.83 crores have been disbursed under various ongoing projects of Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) in Odisha.
- **Aadhaar:** Aadhaar created a trusted biometric identity platform for secure and instant digital authentication. Aadhaar enrolments increased from 0.42 crore in 2010-11 to over 144+ crore by June 2026. In Odisha, over 4.85 crore Aadhaar have been generated.
- **Unified Payments Interface (UPI):** UPI has empowered millions of individuals and small businesses in rural and remote areas to make fast, secure and low-cost digital payments, significantly advancing financial inclusion.
 - o UPI serves more than 49 crore individuals, 6.5 crore merchants, and connects 731 banks on one platform, making it the world's largest digital payment system.
 - o UPI powers 85% of India's digital payments and nearly 50% of global real-time digital payments.
- **DigiLocker** provides citizens with anytime access to authentic digital documents issued by original issuers. The platform has over 71.66 crore registered users, with more than 936.03 crore documents issued by 2,822 onboarded issuers. More than 115.97 Lakh Aadhaar enabled registrations have taken place in the state of Odisha to avail DigiLocker services.
- **Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG)** provides citizens with a single mobile platform to access government services. The platform offers 2,585 services for individuals, including 7 services integrated by the Government of Odisha.
- **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** leverages Aadhaar to transfer welfare benefits directly to beneficiaries, ensuring transparency and eliminating duplicate/fake beneficiaries. Over Rs. 52 lakh crore has been transferred through DBT nationwide, including more than Rs. 2.21 lakh crore in Odisha.
- **e-Sanjeevani** – e-Sanjeevani facilitates quick and easy access to doctors and medical specialists directly from your smartphone. The platform has served over 48 crore patients across the country, including more than 26 lakh patients from the State of Odisha.
- **Common Services Centres (CSCs)** provide over 800 government and business services digitally, enhancing last-mile service delivery through Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). As on May 2026, 5.01 lakh CSCs are functional across the country, including 3.91 lakh at the Gram Panchayat level. In Odisha, 20,229 CSCs are operational, of which 17,622 are at the Gram Panchayat level.
The district-wise details are provided in Annexure-I and are also available on the CSC portal at <https://csc.gov.in>.
- **Ama Seva Kendra (ASK)** is the Government of Odisha's citizen service delivery initiative, providing doorstep access to government services through the Odisha One portal. The platform offers end-to-end delivery of over 200 government services and linked access to more than 400 additional services, with online payment and assisted service facilities. As on date, 11,535 ASKs are operational across all 30 districts of Odisha. The district-wise details are provided in Annexure-II.

In addition to the above, the Government of Odisha has significantly strengthened the State's digital infrastructure through the implementation of BharatNet for broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats.

Odisha State Wide Area Network (OSWAN) has been expanded to connect Government offices up to the Block/Tahasil level.

State Data Centre (SDC) capacity is being increased, and mobile connectivity augmented in underserved and remote areas in coordination with the Government of India under various initiatives of the Digital India Programme.

Further, the Government of Odisha has implemented other citizen-centric e-Governance platforms to provide seamless online access to government services across the State, including rural and tribal areas.

These include OdishaOne, Jana Sunani, Ama Shasan, the Social Protection Delivery Platform (SPDP), Student Academic Management System (SAMS), PARESHRAM, Odisha State Scholarship Portal (OSSP), Odisha Birth and Death Registration System (OBDRS), and OSWAS (e-Office) for efficient, transparent, and paperless governance.

Building Digital Skills: India's digital transformation goes beyond mere access; it focuses on empowering people and institutions to use technology effectively, driving inclusive growth, strengthening digital governance, and enabling citizens across the nation.

- **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)** is one of the world's largest digital literacy initiatives with over 6.39 Crore persons getting trained nationwide (against the target of 6 Crore). In the state of Odisha, 30.86 lakh candidates were trained under the Scheme.
- **FutureSkills Prime**, a collaborative initiative of the Government of India and NASSCOM, provides skilling, reskilling, and upskilling in emerging technologies. So far, over 34 lakh candidates have registered on the portal, with more than 23 lakh enrolled/trained in various courses, including over 77,000 candidates from Odisha.
- **National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)** provides digital literacy and skill development courses, including ACC and CCC, through 56 Centres and a network of over 9,000 partner institutes across the country. In Odisha, NIELIT operates two Centres at Bhubaneswar and Baleshwar, supported by over 105 Facilitation Centres and 35 Accredited Centres.
- The 'Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme', a Central Sector Scheme of MeitY, aims to strengthen research in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT-enabled Services (IT/ITeS). Under the scheme, three institutions in Odisha are being supported, covering 28 full-time PhD scholars, one part-time PhD scholar, three Post-Doctoral Fellowships (PDFs), and two Young Faculty Research Fellowships (YFRFs). Till date, Rs. 319.69 lakh has been allocated and released under the Scheme for Odisha.

Indian IT/ ITeS industry: Our IT industry has been progressively contributing to the growth of exports and creation of employment opportunities. India's digital economy is creating large-scale employment opportunities. The IT and ITeS industry is estimated to have generated USD 283 billion in revenue in FY25, according to NASSCOM. India's 2,100+ Global Capability Centres (GCCs) employ around 26 lakh professionals across engineering, analytics, cyber security, and AI-driven roles.

Employment Generation in Electronics Manufacturing: The growth of the electronics manufacturing sector has led to substantial employment generation. As per industry estimates, it supports around 25 lakh jobs, including direct and indirect employment.

Digital Entrepreneurship: To strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem in the Electronics and ICT domain across Tier-II and Tier-III cities in India, MeitY has undertaken several initiatives to promote technology-driven startups and innovation ecosystem in the country. Some of these initiatives are:

- Government has set up 73 Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) centres of which 65 centres are located in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. Out of these, Six (06) centres have been established in Odisha at Bhubaneswar, Rourkela, Berhampur, Jajpur, Koraput and Balasore.
- ‘**Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups (GENESIS)**’ Scheme envisages scaling up about 1,600 technology startups, to discover, nurture and grow technology startups. The Scheme is being implemented through 65 incubation centres as Implementing Agencies.

Budget Allocation and Utilisation: The Digital India Programme is an umbrella programme comprising projects implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs, each with its own budgetary provisions.

MeitY implements eight Central Sector sub-schemes under the Programme, for which no State/UT-wise budget allocation is made.

The details of the budget allocated and utilised by MeitY under the Digital India Programme during the last five financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
2021-22	4504.36
2022-23	3863.13
2023-24	4174.14
2024-25	3784.93
2025-26	4638.28

Annexure-I**District-wise details of Common Services Centres (CSCs) in Odisha**

Sl No.	District Name	Total	Rural	Urban
1.	ANUGUL	559	512	47
2.	BALANGIR	1044	955	89
3.	BALESHWAR	1328	1201	127
4.	BARGARH	749	685	64
5.	BHADRAK	724	645	79
6.	BOUDH	271	257	14
7.	CUTTACK	1283	1023	260
8.	DEOGARH	202	191	11
9.	DHENKANAL	564	509	55
10.	GAJAPATI	323	286	37
11.	GANJAM	1594	1333	261
12.	JAGATSINGHAPUR	645	583	62
13.	JAJAPUR	859	804	55
14.	JHARSUGUDA	317	232	85
15.	KALAHANDI	968	897	71
16.	KANDHAMAL	299	261	38
17.	KENDRAPARA	720	673	47
18.	KENDUJHAR	723	647	76
19.	KHORDHA	893	530	363
20.	KORAPUT	382	312	70
21.	MALKANGIRI	222	212	10
22.	MAYURBHANJ	1180	1082	98
23.	NABARANGPUR	593	554	39
24.	NAYAGARH	445	389	56
25.	NUAPADA	399	369	30
26.	PURI	895	766	129
27.	RAYAGADA	409	348	61
28.	SAMBALPUR	530	418	112
29.	SONEPUR	275	254	21
30.	SUNDARGARH	834	694	140
Total		20,229	17,622	2,607

Annexure-II**District-wise details of Ama Seva Kendra (ASK)**

Sl No	District	ASK Count
1	Angul	333
2	Balangir	558
3	Balasore	898
4	Bargarh	391
5	Bhadrak	447
6	Boudh	213
7	Cuttack	559
8	Debagarh	130
9	Dhenkanal	305
10	Gajapati	275
11	Ganjam	1130
12	Jagatsinghapur	302
13	Jajpur	458
14	Jharsuguda	127
15	Kalahandi	448
16	Kandhamal	229
17	Kendrapara	453
18	Kendujhar	372
19	Khurda	507
20	Koraput	407
21	Malkangiri	150
22	Mayurbhanj	534
23	Nabarangapur	304
24	Nayagarh	348
25	Nuapada	186
26	Puri	428
27	Rayagada	218
28	Sambalpur	249
29	Subarnapur	218
30	Sundargarh	358
Total		11,535
