

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 723
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.07.2026

IMPLEMENTATION OF PMGDISHA SCHEME IN TAMIL NADU

723. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

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

- (a) the total number of persons targeted and the number of persons digitally trained under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA) scheme in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;
- (b) the steps taken to ensure awareness and enrolment of rural citizens, particularly women and marginalized communities in digital literacy programs;
- (c) the measures adopted to monitor the quality and effectiveness of digital literacy training under the scheme;
- (d) the challenges faced in achieving the targets of PMGDISHA in Tamil Nadu and the corrective steps being taken; and
- (e) the plans to further expand digital literacy coverage in the State and integrate citizens into digital governance and services?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): In line with Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratize technology and empower citizens through digital governance and service, the Government of India launched the Digital India Programme in July, 2015. 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 in India.

Under the Digital India Programme, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has taken several initiatives to ensure digital literacy and enable digital governance and online delivery of citizen-centric services.

These include development and implementation of digital platforms, promotion of Aadhaar-based authentication for beneficiary identification, and expansion of service delivery through Common Service Centres (CSCs) to provide assisted access to citizens, particularly in rural and remote areas.

Digital India initiatives are also accessible through mobile platforms such as Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG), which have played a significant role in bridging the urban-rural divide. These initiatives enable citizens to access a wide range of Government services such as digital education, digital health, digital payments, e-Courts etc., anytime and from anywhere.

Key initiatives in the areas of digital literacy and Governance services aimed at ensuring inclusive and equitable access to Government services are as under:

i. **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) :**

- The PMGDISHA was initiated to provide digital literacy to 6 crore rural households (one person per household) nationwide. 4.39 Lakh Common Service Centres(CSCs) spread across rural areas helped in spreading digital literacy across 2.52 Lakh Gram Panchayats in the country. As against 6 crore, 6.39 crore individuals were trained across the country, including 14.07 lakh+ candidates from the State of Tamil Nadu, and the Scheme was concluded on 31.03.2024.
- The marginalized sections of society like Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST), Below Poverty Line (BPL), women, differently-abled persons, and minorities were covered under the said scheme.
- The district-wise status under the PMGDISHA in the State of Tamil Nadu is given at **Annexure -I.**
- As per the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) Comprehensive Annual Modular Survey (CAMS), 2022–23, 78.4% of persons aged 15–24 years reported the ability to send messages with attached files, indicating improved digital skills among youth. The survey also reported that 94.2% of rural households and 97.1% of urban households possessed a telephone/mobile phone.
- Given the significant rise in smartphone usage, internet penetration, and digital engagement in rural areas, the scheme has enabled enhancing the access to a wide range of information and services for various purposes to the rural citizens, thereby helping in bridging the overall digital divide in the country.

ii. **National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT):**

- NIELIT provides various long term/ short term skilling courses and digital literacy courses such as Awareness in Computer Concept (ACC), Course on Computer Concepts (CCC) etc.
- Training is delivered through a wide network of 56 NIELIT Centres and 9000+ Partner Institutes.
- NIELIT has trained 43 lakh+ candidates under various courses, including digital literacy and Cyber Security awareness.
- NIELIT has a strong presence in Tamil Nadu through its Centre at Chennai, and 35+ partner institutes across the State.
- In the last 03 years, through its wide network, NIELIT has trained/skilled 37500+ candidates in the State of Tamil Nadu.

iii. **Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG),** one mobile application for all Government services, is operational and offers 2446+ services(Central: 872, State:1,574) for individuals.400+services from the State of TamilNadu are onboarded on UMANG platform.

iv. **DigiLocker:** DigiLocker has provided anytime access to authentic digital documents from the original issuer for the common citizen. More than 67.56 Crore+ users are registered with DigiLocker to avail its services and more than 950 Crore+ documents issued from 2400+ issuers onboarded on the platform. 1.94 Crore Aadhaar enabled registrations have taken place in the State of Tamil Nadu to avail DigiLocker services.

v. **Aadhaar:** Aadhaar is the world's largest digital identity programme that provides biometric and demographic-based unique digital identity. 143.80 Crore+ Aadhaar IDs have been generated so far with 8.47 Crore+ Aadhaar IDs generated in the State of Tamil Nadu. 200+ Public welfare and good governance initiatives in Tamil Nadu utilize Aadhaar authentication for beneficiary identification across sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture and banking.

vi. **Common Services Centre (CSC):** CSCs offer Government and business services in digital mode, thereby enhancing last-mile connectivity in rural areas through Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). Over 800 services are being delivered through CSCs.

As on May, 2026, 5.01 lakh CSCs are functional across the country (in rural and urban areas), out of which 3.91 lakh CSCs are functional at the Gram Panchayat level (rural). State/UT wise and district-wise details of CSCs and list of services are available at <https://csc.gov.in/>.

vii. **MyGov:** MyGov is the Government of India's Citizen Engagement Platform which collaborates with multiple Government bodies/ Ministries. It engages with people in policy formulation and seeks the opinion of people on issues/ topics of public interest and welfare. Presently, 6,36,23,493 citizens are registered with MyGov, participating in various activities hosted on MyGov platform.

The MyGov State instance (<https://tamilnadu.mygov.in/>) has also been operationalized in Tamil Nadu to promote participatory governance at the State level, enabling citizens to actively engage with the Government by sharing their ideas, suggestions, and feedback directly with State Government.

Annexure-I

District-wise status under PMGDISHA in the State of Tamil Nadu

S. No.	District Name	Registered Candidates	Trained Candidates
1	Ariyalur	64,156	57,289
2	Chennai	240	159
3	Coimbatore	47,814	35,754
4	Cuddalore	41,012	28,758
5	Dharmapuri	77,289	64,813
6	Dindigul	40,951	33,980
7	Erode	42,479	35,604
8	Kanchipuram	38,116	26,204
9	Kanniyakumari	30,580	23,710
10	Karur	41,929	36,663
11	Krishnagiri	71,346	63,430
12	Madurai	21,776	15,226
13	Nagapattinam	36,584	26,814
14	Namakkal	43,372	35,812

15	Perambalur	47,162	43,402
16	Pudukkottai	92,548	81,623
17	Ramanathapuram	38,405	27,702
18	Salem	80,404	73,193
19	Sivaganga	72,036	58,065
20	Thanjavur	61,175	52,646
21	The Nilgiris	6,625	2,202
22	Theni	20,819	14,783
23	Thiruvallur	56,489	48,445
24	Thiruvarur	48,957	35,015
25	Tiruchirappalli	1,08,842	95,369
26	Tirunelveli	50,015	38,889
27	Tiruppur	31,576	25,148
28	Tiruvannamalai	1,62,506	1,50,730
29	Tuticorin	15,992	10,782
30	Vellore	47,167	32,172
31	Villupuram	1,14,547	95,151
32	Virudhunagar	51,628	38,347
Total		17,04,537	14,07,880
