

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1596
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 31.07.2024

GROWTH OF IT INDUSTRY

1596. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any key initiatives to promote the growth of the IT industry in the country;
- (b) whether India is the major exporter of IT services in the world;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the key achievements of the Government during the last decade in the field of expanding digital infrastructure including broad band connectivity, mobile networks and data centres;
- (e) the details of the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project undertaken by the Government; and
- (f) the manner in which it will benefit the connectivity in the country, particularly in the rural areas?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The Government has come up with various initiatives to promote Information Technology (IT)/ IT enabled Services (ITeS) industry across the country which include setting up of 65 centres of Software Technology Parks of India, 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), BPO Promotion Schemes for small towns/cities, National Policy on Software Products-2019 (NPSP 2019), various skill development program through 52 centres of National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT), FutureSkills PRIME for re-skilling/ up-skilling of IT professionals, promotion of Start-up ecosystem through Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0), Startup Accelerator of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development, and Growth (SAMRIDH), Domain Specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs), Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups (GENESIS)etc.

As per National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), India's technology industry revenue is estimated to reach \$254 Bn in FY2023-24 including exports of around \$200 Bn.

As per telecom subscription data as on 31st May, 2024, there are 116.895 Crore wireless subscribers and 93.513 Crore broadband subscribers. As per report by JLL Research, data centre industry in India is expanding and has an installed data centre capacity of 854 MW in 2023.

As per Department of Telecommunication, BharatNet (earlier known as National Optical Fibre Network) project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayat (GPs) and villages. The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized to provide broadband services, such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc. On 04.08.2023, the Union Cabinet has approved the Amended BharatNet Program ('ABP'), for providing connectivity to 2,64,554 GPs. Execution of Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) has already started; and as of 30.06.2024; 2,13,398 GPs have been made service ready under BharatNet project in the country.
