GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 303
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.07.2024

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AUTOMATION

303.   SHRI SELVAGANAPATHI T.M.:

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

(a)   whether it is a fact that cutting-edge artificial intelligence automation will have an impact on jobs and industry in India and also a cause to dearth of white-collar jobs at the moment,
(b)   whether it is true that besides major re-training and re-skilling efforts concerning Al, the Government was also in support of helping manufacturing companies to retrofit their supply chains with software devices that would collect the information and data needed for Al models to work in industrial scenario;
(c)   whether it is a fact that newer Al jobs, many of those will get created in India as we have a large number of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) trained graduates and many of whom have exposure to Al far more than any other country in the world?
(d)   if so, what are the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d):   The Government considers the next decade as 'India Techade'. India over the last 9 years has become a pre-eminent nation in developing technologies for the benefit and transforming the lives of its citizens. India continues to lead in AI talent and skill penetration according to recent reports. The Stanford AI Index 2024 highlights that India tops global AI skill penetration rates and AI talent concentration. India's AI skill penetration is rated at 2.8, surpassing the United States (2.2) and Germany (1.9). Additionally, India's AI talent concentration has seen significant growth, with a 263% increase from 2016 onwards.

As per the BCG-NASSCOM report 2024, the AI market in India is witnessing robust growth, projected at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 25-35%.

AI may result in automating some routine jobs but will also result in job creation in various data science, data curation, etc. This will require reskilling and upskilling, for which MeitY has initiated 'FutureSkills PRIME' a programme for Re-skilling/Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability in 10 new/emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence. Under this programme so far, 18.56 Lakh+ candidates have signed-up on the FutureSkills PRIME Portal, out of which, 3.37 Lakhs+ candidates have completed their course.

Under the Scheme of Centers of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence implemented by MeitY in partnership with NASSCOM, Startups are supported for developing AI based tools and applications that are of use for manufacturing companies. Several such solutions have been deployed by companies in manufacturing sector.

In addition, National e-Governance Division (NeGD), MeitY in collaboration with its partners, has implemented 'YUVAi: Youth for Unnati and Vikas with AI'- A National Programme for School Students with the objective of enabling school students from classes 8th to 12th with AI tech and social skills in an inclusive manner. The programme will provide a platform for youth to learn and apply AI skills in 8 thematic areas- Krishi, Aarogya, Shiksha, Paryavaran, Parivahan, Grameen Vikas, Smart Cities and Vidhi aur Nyaay.