

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 297
ANSWERED ON 27/11/2024**

National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP)
297 Shri Anurag Singh Thakur:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has evaluated the implementation and impact of the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP) in fostering open access to non-sensitive Government data, and if so, the key findings of such evaluations;**
- (b) the specific measures being taken to enhance data quality, interoperability, and integration across different Government platforms to support effective data sharing;**
- (c) whether the Government is collaborating with public and private stakeholders to encourage innovative uses of shared data for research and technological advancement and the details of such partnerships; and**
- (d) the efforts made to strengthen the data infrastructure and ensure secure, real-time data accessibility while maintaining transparency and compliance with privacy regulations?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

**विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)**

(a) to (b): A robust Content Review Policy is put in place for reviewing the data quality in Open Government Data Platform (data.gov.in) through routine testing of web pages and the content by Project Management Unit (PMU) of NIC. The Chief Data Officers in respective Ministry/Department ensure quality and correctness of the data. Application Programming Interfaces (API's) facilitate sharing of data and interoperability functions with other applications and departments.

(c) Yes. The IndiaAI Application Development Initiative aims to support the development, scaling, and promotion of impactful AI solutions that address real-world challenges. As part of this initiative, IndiaAI is running innovation challenges, calling on innovators,

startups, academia, think tanks, industry, civil society, and autonomous bodies to collaborate and create population-scale innovative AI solutions. IndiaAI Mission enables the development of indigenous tools, frameworks, and guidelines that are based on Indian datasets and contextualized to our social, economic, cultural, and linguistic diversity. A pilot version of Integrated Geospatial Data Sharing Interface (GDI) has been developed by Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru which enables seamless data sharing, access, and analysis for various applications. Recently, the Department has also launched Operation Dronagiri to demonstrate the potential applications of integrating geospatial data and technologies on a pilot scale to encourage innovations involving public and private stakeholders.

(d) OGD Platform is managed adhering to the Guidelines of the Government and Data security policies. The architecture is scalable and of high availability. Departments are being provided with technical advice with respect to preparation of datasets, contribution of datasets, explanation of metadata and the entire workflow of data publishing, feedback management etc. The Information Technology (Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal data or Information) Rules, 2011 ('SPDI Rules') under Information Technology Act, 2000 provides a framework required for application of reasonable security practices and procedures like informed consent, access control, and auditing processes. Further, for safeguarding the personal data of individuals and ensure that their data is shared only with their consent, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (DPDP Act) has been enacted. The DPDP Act is aimed at safeguarding the personal data of individuals, and ensuring processing of personal data for the lawful purposes. The DPDP Act mentions that appropriate technical and organisational measures must be implemented for processing of the personal data and reasonable security safeguards must be taken to prevent any personal data breach. The DPDP Act establishes a framework that pushes organizations to modernize their data infrastructure, adopt secure technologies, and implement data protection-conscious practices. The emphasis on secure, real-time data access, and compliance with data protection principles creates a balanced approach, ensuring both accountability and transparency in processing personal data. These efforts aim to provide individuals with greater control over their personal data while fostering trust in how their information is processed by organizations. The DPDP Act is not yet in force and after the DPDP Act comes into force, Section 43A of the IT Act 2000 will be omitted.
