

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 587
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 23.07.2025

FREE AND OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

587. SHRI ARUN BHARTI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced any new policies to promote the adoption of Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) to reduce dependency on proprietary software and curb monopolies in public service delivery;
- (b) the details of key Government projects that have transitioned to FOSS solutions, including their impact on public service delivery and cost savings;
- (c) the details of steps taken by the Government to integrate FOSS tools in educational institutions to promote digital literacy and innovation among students;
- (d) the initiatives launched to encourage FOSS development in the country including financial support, training programmes and incentives for developers and startups; and
- (e) the challenges faced in ensuring widespread adoption of FOSS in public administration and private sectors along with the measures being taken to address them?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): Government of India's digital strategy is based on Prime Minister's vision to democratise technology.

Government has developed several digital platforms such as Aadhaar, DigiLocker, PM Gati Shakti, Aarogya Setu, Unified Payment Interface, etc. Policies for using specific software system/ solutions are decided from time to time and are based on technical and security requirements.
