

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4212
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 18.03.2026

LIMITED DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN WESTERN UTTAR PRADESH

4212. SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of limited digital infrastructure, cyber awareness and IT-based employment opportunities in Western Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken to promote digital inclusion and IT skill development in the region;
- (c) whether similar challenges exist across the country; and
- (d) if so, the details of national measures undertaken to strengthen digital governance and the IT ecosystem?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): In line with Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision to democratize technology and empower citizens, the Government of India launched the Digital India programme in July 2015.

Through this programme, Government has bridged the digital divide using multi-pronged strategy:

- Increasing access to internet,
- Making internet affordable,
- Providing digital public infrastructure
- Enhancing the digital literacy

These efforts have collectively enabled wider access to digital services and opportunities, thereby fostering inclusive and equitable digital growth across the country. It can be seen from the following statistics:

#	2014-15	2024-25	Remarks
Total broadband subscribers	25 Cr	103 Cr	400% increase in subscribers
Total numbers of Mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTS)	7.9 Lakh	29.50 lakh	an increase of about 273%
villages covered with mobile connectivity (2G/3G/4G)	~ 5.27 lakh	6.35 lakh	an increase of about 20.5% (near-universal coverage)

Total optical fiber laid	358 kms	6,92,676 Kms	OFC laid increased by about 1,935 times
Average monthly data consumption per subscriber	61.66 MB	~ 25.25 GB	Data consumption increased by ~ 419 times
Cost of data per Gb	Rs 269	~ Rs 7.9	97% reduction in cost

Digital India program has brought fundamental change in the people's lives:

- More than 143 Cr Aadhar numbers have been issued providing digital identity to Indian residents
- Aadhar was critical in developing the unified payment interface system. India's UPI is now the world's largest digital payment system with more than 46 Cr users and 685 banks. UPI powers 81% of India's digital payments and nearly 49% of global real-time digital payments
- Using Jan Dhan, Aadhar and Mobile (JAM) Trinity, subsidies and benefits worth Rs. 49.82 lakh crore have been transferred directly to the citizens
- DigiLocker has provided digital access to authentic digital documents from original issuer for the common citizen. Currently, 67 crore users are registered on the platform. More than 967 crore documents have been issued using DigiLocker
- Common Services Centres – (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 31st January 2026, a total of 1,24,394 Common Services Centre (CSCs) were functional in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The details of CSCs functional in the State of Uttar Pradesh can be seen at **Annexure-I**.

Promoting Digital Literacy:

The Government has taken several initiatives to provide skilling/upskilling to youth. These initiatives aim to develop industry-ready manpower in emerging and advanced technology domains across the country.

PMGDISHA: Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) was launched in 2017 to ensure digital literacy. The scheme concluded on 31st March 2024. The scheme was one of the world's largest digital literacy initiatives. Against the target of training 6 Cr people, more than 6.39 Crore persons were trained nationwide.

FutureSkills Prime: FutureSkills PRIME program is a collaborative initiative of MeitY and National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) aimed at making India a cutting-edge digital talent nation. Under the programme, so far, more than 27.53+ lakh candidates have registered on the portal, out of which there have been 17.24+ lakh candidates enrolled/trained in various courses.

National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT): NIELIT provides digital literacy courses such as Awareness in Computer Concept (ACC), Course on Computer Concepts (CCC) etc. NIELIT has trained 43 lakh+ candidates under various courses, including digital literacy and cyber security awareness. Training is delivered through a wide network of 56 NIELIT Centres and 9000+ Accredited Training Partners/Facilitation Centres.

Cyber awareness:

The Government has institutionalised a nationwide integrated and coordinated system to strengthen cybersecurity and digital resilience in public infrastructure which, inter alia, includes:

- National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) under the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) to ensure coordination amongst different agencies.
- The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is designated as the national agency for responding to cyber security incidents under the provisions of section 70B of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.
- National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC), implemented by CERT-In, examines the cyberspace to detect cyber security threats. It shares the information with concerned organizations, state governments and stakeholder agencies for taking action.
- Cyber Swachhata Kendra (CSK) is the Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre and helps to detect malicious programs and provides free tools to remove the same. It also provides cyber security tips and best practices for citizens and organisations.
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has established Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) to deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated and effective manner.
- The Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country under the provisions of section 70A of the IT Act, 2000.
- CERT-In works with other agencies involved in ensuring cybersecurity including Telecom Security Operations Centre (TSOC), Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC), etc.
- Computer Security Incident Response Team in Finance sector (CSIRT-Fin) under CERT-In is operational since May 2020 to coordinate cyber incident response in the banking and financial sector.
- ‘Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA)’ project is being implemented by MeitY for strengthening human resources in the area of Information Security and creating general awareness. Awareness material on various aspects of cyber hygiene & cyber security are disseminated through portals such as www.staysafeonline.in, www.infosecawareness.in and www.csk.gov.in.

ANNEXURE-I

DISTRICT WISE FUNCTIONAL CSCs IN UTTAR PRADESH

District Name	Total functional CSCs
Agra	1,720
Aligarh	1,531
Ambedkar Nagar	1,391
Amethi	1,583
Amroha	1,633
Auraiya	1,163
Ayodhya	1,573
Azamgarh	2,491
Baghpat	778
Bahraich	2,094
Ballia	1,559
Balrampur	1,197
Banda	963
Barabanki	2,102
Bareilly	3,131
Basti	1,995
Bhadohi	952
Bijnor	2,601
Budaun	2,020
Bulandshahr	2,435
Chandauli	1,277
Chitrakoot	579
Deoria	2,241
Etah	1,303
Etawah	1,202
Farrukhabad	1,352
Fatehpur	1,309
Firozabad	1,846
Gautam Buddha Nagar	872
Ghaziabad	1,423
Ghazipur	1,699
Gonda	2,271
Gorakhpur	2,494
Hamirpur	764
Hapur	850
Hardoi	2,297
Hathras	1,131
Jalaun	1,103
Jaunpur	2,224

Jhansi	967
Kannauj	888
Kanpur Dehat	1,351
Kanpur Nagar	1,683
Kasganj	1,105
Kaushambi	1,242
Kheri	2,060
Kushi Nagar	2,444
Lalitpur	830
Lucknow	2,753
Maharajganj	2,262
Mahoba	706
Mainpuri	1,438
Mathura	1,156
Mau	1,256
Meerut	1,764
Mirzapur	1,447
Moradabad	2,978
Muzaffarnagar	1,393
Pilibhit	2,037
Pratapgarh	2,424
Prayagraj	3,228
Rae Bareli	1,776
Rampur	2,121
Saharanpur	2,653
Sambhal	1,811
Sant Kabeer Nagar	1,223
Shahjahanpur	2,069
Shamli	886
Shravasti	695
Siddharth Nagar	2,023
Sitapur	2,028
Sonbhadra	1,317
Sultanpur	1,409
Unnao	1,919
Varanasi	1,903
Total	1,24,394

Source: CSC e-Governance Services India Limited
