

of operation to Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), the implementing agency of IBPS. The remaining 3 units for a total of 600 seats are at various stages of implementation. It is obligatory on the units to start operations within the stipulated timelines of IBPS. All necessary support in respect of starting operations under the scheme is being extended to the units by STPI and State IT Departments.

Aadhaar Data Leak

89. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of Aadhaar Personal information leaks from the CIDR since 2014;

(b) whether Government is planning to set up a nodal agency to compensate victims of Aadhaar data leaks or theft or misuse of data, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that 210 websites of Central Government and State Government Departments were displaying the list of beneficiaries along with their personal information to the public, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of Government schemes where Aadhaar is mandatory for availing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) There has been no leakage of Aadhaar data from the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. It was found that approximately 210 websites of Central Government and State Government departments including educational institutes, were displaying the list of beneficiaries along with their name, address, other details and Aadhaar numbers for information of general public. The concerned departments were instructed to remove the Aadhaar and other personal data from the said websites.

In addition, the Central and State Governments have been advised to sensitize all Ministries/Departments to take all precautions while publishing or sharing data on their websites and ensure compliance of Aadhaar Act, 2016 and Information Technology Act, 2000.

(d) Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 enables use of Aadhaar as condition precedent for services and benefits flowing from Consolidated Fund of India, provided

no service/benefit is denied for want of Aadhaar. 395 schemes from 56 Ministries/ Departments have been on-boarded on Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) platform. Of these schemes, Aadhaar notifications under Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act have been issued in respect of 227 schemes till date. These notifications also provide mechanism to handle such cases where Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual and instruct implementing agencies to deliver benefits on the basis of alternate identity documents.

Decline in employee strength of companies in IT Industry

90. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the headcount of the six major companies in IT industry has dropped by 4157 in the first six months of the current fiscal year against an increase of almost 60,000 in the same period last year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such a major drop in the recruitment by the IT industry this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The half yearly financial reports of 6 major IT companies indicate a decline in employment. The drop in the recruitment by the IT industry this fiscal year is due to several factors which *inter alia* include:

- Some of the less complex, standard and repetitive jobs are being automated;
- Companies are improving their employee-utilisation levels and reducing bench strength; and
- Companies are employing people with specialised skillsets in newer areas such as data science, machine learning, artificial intelligence and internet-of-things. The growth rate in these technologies and the nature of the business do not necessitate large-scale hiring.

Establishment of Software Technology Parks

91. SHRI. A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Software Technology Parks (STPs) established during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there are adequate proposals to increase rural employment in the STPs; and