

Aadhaar card, there is a provision for submission of other alternative documents like passport, birth certificate, Life insurance policy etc.

(c) There have been instances of concerns being raised on the security of Aadhaar data. All the concerns raised regarding the security, have been dealt with and addressed by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). Adequate legal, organizational and technological measures are in place for the security of the data stored with UIDAI.

(d) Yes, Sir. Biometric information including iris scan and fingerprints is securely stored in an encrypted form at UIDAI's Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR).

#### **Setting up of ITIR in Visakhapatnam**

887 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a proposal for setting up of Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Visakhapatnam district;

(b) if so, when such proposal was received and the present status of the same;

(c) whether the proposal has been placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be placed before the CCEA?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India had received a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh on 26th August, 2014 for setting up of Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. During the consideration of the proposal, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 10.9.2014 directed that the ITIR Policy Resolution, 2008 be comprehensively re-examined in the light of the experience gained over time. Now, the Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) Policy, 2008 has been closed. Henceforth, the proposal for setting up of ITIR at Visakhapatnam has not been considered for further course of action.

**Switch over to internet of things**

888. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that by 2019, more than 80 per cent of the organizations in Asia-Pacific region are likely to switch over to Internet of Things (IoT), *i.e.*, devices, appliances, equipments and machines with the capability to connect, communicate and control each other;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the benefits to Information Technology sector and preparedness in the country for the adoption of IoT by 2019; and

(c) whether the switch over to IoT in the country shall increase additional opportunities for unemployed youth?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) is aware of the revolution that IoT and its related technologies will bring along in coming years. Taking into consideration the same, MeitY had also drafted the IoT Policy for India in year 2016 and since then implementation upon the drafted strategies are in progress. The main aim of the policy is to enable the IoT Ecosystem in India and reap the benefits from upcoming Global and Local IoT Industry. The ecosystem build up includes IoT Standards Development and Participation from Indian organizations in development of standards, Creation of Incubation Centres for Start-ups, ensuring the upcoming resources (from our post graduate colleges) to be ready to work on IoT and related technologies, etc. MeitY has been actively working on supporting the process of creation and building the eco-system for IoT.

Anticipating the promising potential of Machine to Machine Communication (M2M), Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has also released the 'National Telecom M2M Roadmap' as M2M/ IoT based applications in sectors like Transport, Power, Utilities, Logistics, Health, Shipping; Smart City etc. have tremendous potential to bring sustainable value addition to the emerging scenario on continuous basis.

(b) MeitY initiated a Creation of Centres of Excellence (COEs) for IoT which will support entrepreneurship in the area of IoT and also bring-in more awareness on IoT. The main objective of the CoE IoT is to help Indian IoT Startups leverage cutting edge technologies to build market ready product. Through IoT Startups Program, the aim is to build industry capable talent in an entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing Incubation, Funding, Acceleration, Industry Connect and Mentoring. The First CoE has already been established in Bengaluru and three more CoEs are to be established at Vizag, Ahmedabad, Gurgaon. This will lead to bringing in of in-house

IoT products/services to Indian Market and indirectly help in improving the Indian economy as well. Further, the following are the major benefits of these Centres of Excellence for IoT to the Information Technology sector:—

- Trained manpower
- Innovative Ideas
- Prototypes for new products.
- Future products for cross functional business process enhancement in various industry verticals

(c) Switch-over to IoT in the country will also lead to bringing in of newer IoT based products and services, that will help to bring in more employment automatically for development, integration and support of these products or services. Various skills sets that would be benefited will depend on the domain served by such product or services. In general, IoT will require resources (manpower) to perform System Integrations, Embedded Software development, Creation of sensors and processors and deployment of such products/services. These skills will not only be required in India but will also be required globally.

#### **Revenue from IT sector**

889. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan/roadmap to increase the revenue from the Information Technology (IT) sector and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware of the competition from other countries in IT sector and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to increase domestic manufacturing of electronic components by incentivizing them and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government also plans to increase the availability of computer/IT programming in regional languages across the country and distribute the same free of cost, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken a series of steps and initiated programmes under the Digital India Initiative for growth of the Information Technology (IT) sector. These include steps to increase domestic Electronic production, BPO promotion schemes for creation of employment opportunities and promotion of BPO/ITeS operations across the country particularly in small cities/