

various aspects pertaining to cross-border transfer of personal data including the benefits and costs of imposing restrictions on flow of personal data outside the country.

Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Scheme for Electronics and IT

1946. SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons which necessitated a separate Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics and IT; and

(b) whether the programme has attracted foreign students as well?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The “National Policy on Electronics (NPE-2012)” and the “National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT-2012)” provided thrust to R&D, Innovation and IP generation. NPIT 2012 suggested that IT/ITES industry to grow from ‘service based’ model to a ‘product based’ growth model, hence there is a need to enhance the availability of Ph.D.s in the country in this sector. It was estimated that 25% of the employees required in IT/ITES and electronics-system design ought to be at Ph.D. level. Enhancing the number of PhDs in these sectors is essential to create such an ecosystem. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the scheme in 2014 “To enhance the number of Ph.D.s in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors” now known as “Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Scheme for Electronics and IT”. Out of 934 Full Time Ph.D. candidates enrolled, two are foreign students.

Threat of mobile games

1947. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that dangerous mobile games like Blue Whale, PUBG, etc. are becoming serious threat to the children;

(b) whether Government has any plan and mechanism to stop such games;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?