

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1894
ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF GEOSPATIAL APPLICATIONS

1894. SHRI JAGGESH:

Will the Minister of *SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Geospatial Technology has become one of the key enablers in socio-economic development by enhancing productivity, ensuring sustainable infrastructure planning, effective administration, and aiding the farm sector;
- (b) whether Government is keen in expanding the scope of geospatial applications in multiple spheres to benefit every section of the society in the country; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to enhance the growth of Indian Geospatial Economy and the expected growth rate in the coming years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY & EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Guidelines for acquiring and producing Geospatial data and Geospatial data services including maps have been issued on 15 February 2021 to liberalise the acquisition and production of geospatial data and geospatial data services including maps. The Guidelines dispense with the requirement for prior approval, security clearance, license or other restrictions on the collection, generation, preparation, dissemination, storage, publication, updating and/or digitization of Geospatial Data and Maps in the country.

Further, the National Geospatial Policy is being introduced to strengthen the Geospatial sector to support national development, economic prosperity and a thriving information economy. While the Guidelines deregulated the Geospatial sector by liberalizing acquisition/production/access of Geospatial data, the Policy takes it further by laying down an overarching framework for holistic development of the Geospatial ecosystem. It seeks to develop Geospatial infrastructures, Geospatial skill and knowledge, standards, Geospatial businesses, promote innovation and strengthen the national and sub-national arrangements for generation and management of Geospatial information.

As per an industry estimate, India's geospatial economy was ₹ 23,345 crores in 2020. In 2025, the geospatial economy is estimated to be valued at ₹ 52,770 crores.
