GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1335
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 02.08.2024

ADOPTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE UNDER PPP MODEL

1335. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering encouraging public-private participation through transparent schemes to encourage Artificial Intelligence (AI) adoption in the country, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether Government is considering strengthening research in AI through the establishment of dedicated AI innovation centres, academic institutions, and startup ecosystems, if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether Government is considering tax incentives for firms investing heavily in AIresearch and development, if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the measures taken by Government to strengthen AI infrastructure, such as high-end hardware and software?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Government has approved implementation of IndiaAI Mission which aims to catalyze the AI innovation ecosystem in the country and help ensure the global competitiveness of India's AI startups, researchers and industry. Some of the measures taken by Government to strengthen AI infrastructure are as follows:

I. The aim of the IndiaAI Compute pillar under IndiaAI Mission is to create a scalable AI computing ecosystem in India, featuring 10,000 GPUs for high-performance AI tasks. This includes a marketplace for AI services and pre-trained models, supporting innovation across sectors. The initiative will be implemented on a Public-Private Partnership model.

II. IndiaAI Innovation Centre under IndiaAI Mission will undertake the development and deployment of foundational models, with a specific focus on indigenous LLMs and domain-specific foundational models. The foundational models developed will include those that have high resource requirements and cater to applications across priority sectors. This will help promote and strengthen research in Artificial Intelligence.

III. IndiaAI Startup Financing Scheme under IndiaAI Mission aims to support AI startups by offering streamlined funding for all stages from development to commercialization. The scheme fosters innovation and entrepreneurship with a comprehensive approach.

IV. IndiaAIFutureSkillsunder IndiaAI Mission will coordinate with existing efforts to increase the number of graduate, post-graduate and Ph.D. students by supporting research in AI projects. Further, Data and AI Labs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities across India will help impart foundational-level courses in Data and AI such as Annotation, Data Cleaning, Data Analytics, etc.

V. MeitY has established Centres of Excellence in various emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence to explore opportunities in these specialized fields. These centres provide start-ups with plug-and-play co-working spaces and access to the ecosystem.

VI. MeitY along with CDAC has also initiated a Proof-of-Concept (PoC) project on AIRAWAT (AI Research, Analytics and Knowledge Dissemination Platform) for providing a common compute platform for AI research and knowledge assimilation. This AI Computing infrastructure will be used by all Technology innovation hubs, Research Labs, Scientific Communities, Industry, and Start-Ups institutions with National Knowledge Network. The PoC for AIRAWAT is developed with 200 petaflops Mix Precision AI Machine which will be scalable to a peak compute of One AI Exaflop. The 200 AI Petaflops AIRAWAT PoC integrated with 210 AI Petaflops of PARAM SiddhiAI has been ranked 75th in Top500 List.

VII. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has setup a Centre of Excellence in AI which is involved in facilitating AI as a Service through on Meghraj cloud with 7 AI PFlopssupercompute facility created at Delhi and 5 AI PFlop in Kolkata.

VIII. The National Supercomputing Mission launched in 2015 and has deployed over 30 Peta-Flop supercomputers in academic and R&D institutions, supporting over 8,000 researchers and 9.4 million application codes. These systems are crucial for national applications in genomics, disaster management, and more, while also training 20,000 individuals in HPC and AI. The mission focuses on achieving self-reliance by developing indigenous supercomputing components and technologies.

IX. The Department of Science & Technology (DST) is implementing National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS). Under the Mission, 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) are set up in premier institutes of national importance across the country in advanced technologies. The mandates of the Mission include Technology Development, Human Resource Development, Entrepreneurship Development and International Collaborations. One of the Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) under National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), namely Artificial Intelligence for Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (AI4ICPS) I-Hub Foundation set up at IIT Kharagpur is working in the technology vertical Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

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