

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *196
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.08.2024

PROGRESS OF DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

***196 MS. SUSHMITA DEV:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: -

- (a) the total funds allocated and utilised under the Digital India programme since 2021, year-wise;
- (b) the number of IT Professional re-skilled and up-skilled under the Future Skills Prime Programme since 2021, year-wise; and
- (c) the progress of Centres of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence on health, agriculture, and sustainable cities to be set up under the Digital India programme?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *196 FOR 09.08.2024 REGARDING PROGRESS OF DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

.....

(a) to (c): Government launched the Digital India programme with the vision of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge-based economy, by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. The programme is centred on three key vision areas, namely: digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen, governance and services on demand, and digital empowerment of citizens.

Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple projects of various central Ministries/Departments & States/UTs. Each project has its own budgetary requirement and accordingly project-plan has been charted out by the implementing Ministry/ Departments and budget details are being maintained by concerned Ministries/Departments.

Funds utilised by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (“MeitY”) under Digital India programme since 2021, are as follows:

Financial Year	Funds utilised (Rs. in Crore)
2020-21	3,030.54
2021-22	4,504.36
2022-23	3863.13
2023-24	4174.14

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (“MeitY”) has initiated a programme titled “Future Skills PRIME”, jointly with NASSCOM, aimed at re-skilling and up-skilling of candidates in new and emerging technologies. Future Skills PRIME is available as an online platform for digital skills training, which is hosted at <https://futureskillsprime.in/>.

Under the programme, IT-ITeS Sector Skills Council (SSC) NASSCOM is the Key Implementing Agency. In addition, 22 C-DAC and NIELIT Centres have been grouped as Lead & Co-Lead Resource Centres (RCs) for the emerging technologies.

As of 02.08.2024, 8.03 Lakh+ candidates have enrolled on various courses, out of which, 3.34 Lakh+ candidates have completed their courses. Year-wise number of IT Professional re-skilled and up-skilled under the Future Skills Prime Programme since 2021 is as follows:

Financial Year	Enrolments	Completions
2020-21	1,24,900	31,313
2021-22	2,38,452	94,930
2022-23	1,88,346	78,444
2023-24	1,98,051	1,10,786
2024-25 (as on 02.08.2024)	53,980	19,306
Total	8,03,729	3,34,779

For realizing the vision of “Make AI in India and Make AI work for India”, three centres of excellence (CoEs) for Artificial Intelligence have been announced in the Budget Speech 2023-24. Leading industry players will partner in conducting interdisciplinary research, develop cutting-edge applications and scalable problem solutions in the areas of agriculture, health, and sustainable cities.

In pursuance of the same, the **Department of Higher Education (DHE), M/o Education** has approved setting up of 3 Centres of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence with a total financial

outlay of Rs. 990.0 crore over the period of FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28. The Call for Proposals under this

initiative has been launched on 18th November, 2023 through the online portal (<https://iitjammu.ac.in/aicpmu>) for selection of consortiums.

55 consortiums have made applications in the following three sectors: Agriculture – 16; Health – 24; and Sustainable Cities – 15. After evaluation by sub-committee, 11 consortiums for establishment of Centres of Excellence in AI have been identified under Phase-I. The following number of proposals have been identified in each sector: -

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------------|
| (i) | Health | : 04 Proposals |
| (ii) | Sustainable Cities | : 05 Proposals |
| (iii) | Agriculture | : 02 Proposals |

Accordingly, Department of Higher Education, M/o Education has approved grant of Rs. 2 crore to each consortium to provide detailed problem statement and proof of concept (PoC) within a time period of 6 months. Thereafter 3 consortiums will be finalised to be established as Centres of Excellence (one in each domain) under phase-II.
