

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2891
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023

PRODUCTION OF SMARTPHONES

2891 DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI:

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

- (a) the details of the current growth rate of the production of smartphones in the country;
- (b) the details of the duration of PLI scheme for the production of smartphones;
- (c) whether the government plans to extend or revise the PLI scheme based on the performance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has taken any measures to expand and enhance network connectivity in rural areas to facilitate usage of smartphones; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) Over the last several years, India's electronics ecosystem has seen tremendous growth and expansion, investment, and job creation. From almost insignificant in the global electronics supply chain, India is currently rapidly becoming a significant and trusted player in the electronics GVC. Most global and Indian electronics brands are investing, growing and creating jobs in the sector. Government of India's goal is to increase India's share in the electronics GVCs by broadening and deepening the country's electronics manufacturing sector.

Smartphones are a shining example of the rapid growth, significant investment and job creation. The mobile phone production has increased ~18.5 times from INR 18,900 crore in 2014-15 to INR 3,50,000 crore in 2022-23 (industry estimates). Further, the exports of mobile phone have grown ~ 57.5 times from INR 1,566 crore in 2014-15 to INR 90,000 crore in 2022-23(industry estimates).

(b) The success of the smartphone segment in the electronic manufacturing sector in the large part has been due to the visionary Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme. The PLI scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM) was notified on 01.04.2020. The scheme tenure for the production of smartphones is 5 years.

(c) and (d): The PLI Scheme for LSEM is in the implementation phase and no extension or revision is planned at this stage as the performance under the scheme is as per the projected outcomes.

(e) and (f): Mobile coverage for inhabited uncovered villages is provided by Government and the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in a phased manner. Expansion of Telecom networks by Telecom Services Provider (TSPs) is based on their Techno commercial viability. However, in order to provide telecom connectivity in uncovered remote villages in the country, the Government provides financial support to the TSPs through USOF. The Government has following on going schemes under Universal Service Obligation Fund which will provide 4G Mobile services in identified uncovered villages and locations:

- (i) 354 Uncovered Villages Scheme: Under this scheme villages of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand and other priority areas are included
- (ii) Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan (CTDP) for mobile connectivity in the North Eastern Region
- (iii) Scheme for providing mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas
- (iv) Schemes for providing mobile services in Aspirational Districts.
- (v) Scheme for providing mobile services in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- (vi) 4G Saturation scheme to provide 4G services in all identified uncovered villages across the country.
