GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2810
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2023

BOOSTING DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING

2810. DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress of design led manufacturing under the telecom PLI Scheme along with the budget outlay of the scheme;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to boost domestic manufacturing and exports under the scheme;

(c) the progress made under the Telecom Technology Development Fund Scheme (TTDF), especially with respect to supporting research and development initiatives in the field of telecom technology;

(d) the measures being taken to encourage collaboration between industry and academia under TTDF to foster innovation and skill development in the telecom sector;

(e) whether there is any initiative/scheme of the Government to provide connectivity in areas where terrestrial connectivity is not available; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

(a) to (d) Government is committed to develop entire electronics and telecom manufacturing ecosystem in India.

To develop telecom technologies and promote manufacturing, multiple initiatives have been taken. These are enumerated as follows:

PLI in telecom sector:

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Telecom and Networking Products was launched in June 2021. Within a short span, it has catalyzed production of telecom equipment in India. The details are as follows:

- Total of 33 telecom and networking products.
- Incentives ranging from 4 to 7%.
- Additional 1% incentive for MSMEs for first 3 years.
- Additional 1% incentive for products ‘Designed in India’.

- Total 42 applicant companies including 28 MSMEs.
- Total financial outlay: Rs. 12,195 Crore.
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Achievements of PLI in telecom sector till date:

	Total commitment by applicants	Progress till 31st October, 2023
Investment	4,014 Cr	2,725 Cr
Incremental Sales	2,37,807 Cr	38,999 Cr
Additional direct employment	44,494	15,561

- Under telecom PLI scheme, products worth Rs 8,804 Crore have been exported till date.

TTDF:

- Government launched Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) Scheme on 01.10.2022.
- TTDF is aimed at funding research and development of technologies, products, and services for providing telecom services in rural and remote areas.
- More than 405 applications have been received under TTDF scheme from Start-ups, MSMEs, Academia, etc. After due assessment, 8 applications with a total outlay of Rs. 266.05 Crore has been approved so far. These include setting up Advanced Optical Communications Test Bed and 6G Tera Hertz Test Bed with Orbital Angular Momentum and Multiplexing.

DCIS Scheme:

- Government has launched Digital Communications Innovation Square (DCIS) Scheme to promote and support translation of innovative ideas and knowledge by Start-ups/MSMEs.
- Government has supported more than 96 start-ups/MSMEs till date with Rs. 74.7 Crore as grant-in-aid under this scheme.
- These innovators are working on backhaul radio and communication technologies, LTE Advanced, 5G/6G and future generation access technologies, Software Defined Networks (SDNs) etc.

Made in India 5G:

- India has witnessed one of the fastest roll-out of 5G anywhere in the world with more than 4 Lakh sites commissioned in less than 14 months.
- A significant amount of equipment used in roll-out of the 5G is 'Made in India'.

Developing indigenous 5G

- Under Atmanirbhar Bharat, indigenous 4G/5G telecom stack has been developed and is under deployment in BSNL network.

Developing ecosystem:

Government of India's goal is to broaden and deepen the country's electronic manufacturing ecosystem as well as increase India's participation in electronics Global Value Chains (GVCs). Government has taken several measures to boost electronics manufacturing. They include:

- Production Linked Incentive Schemes (PLI LSEM and PLI IT Hardware)
- Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS)
- Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters 2.0 (EMC 2.0).
- Further, a program for Development of Semiconductors and Display manufacturing Ecosystem was also introduced, wherein, schemes, viz., Scheme for setting up of Semiconductor and Display Fabs, Scheme for setting up of Compound Semiconductors / Silicon Photonics / Sensors Fab / Discrete Semiconductors Fab and Semiconductor Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) / Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) and Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Schemes are being implemented.

Impact of Government initiatives:

- As a result of these measures the domestic production of electronic items has increased significantly from Rs 1,80,454 Crore (USD 29.8 Billion) in 2014-15 to Rs. 8,22,350 Crore (USD 102 Billion) in 2022-23.
- Further, construction on first semiconductor unit under the Semicon India program has commenced in Sanand, Gujarat.
- A prominent semiconductor company has started its largest semiconductor design centre in Bengaluru.
- Another prominent semiconductor company has collaborated with Indian Institute of Science to train a large pool of engineers conversant in semiconductor technologies.
- Further, Mobile production has increased from Rs 18,900 Crore in 2014-15 to Rs 3,50,000 Crore in 2022-23. From about 78% import dependence in 2014, India has reached a stage where 99.2% of all mobiles sold in India are 'Made in India'.

(e) & (f) The Government through BharatNet Project, is providing connectivity through satellite in areas where terrestrial connectivity is not available. In BharatNet Phase- II, 5,166 GPs have been planned with satellite connectivity. Further, in order to provide high speed data services through satellite, the Government has issued Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) authorization under Unified License to two companies.

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