

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY, 2024**

DIGITAL INDIA INITIATIVE

***122 SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:
SHRI NABA CHARAN MAJHI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Digital India initiative in tier-2 and tier-3 cities;
- (b) the status of the reach of internet connections in villages; and
- (c) the details regarding increase in the number of internet users since 2014?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN
REGION
(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS
(a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 122 FOR 31ST JULY, 2024
REGARDING “DIGITAL INDIA INITIATIVE.”**

(a) Under Digital India Initiative, various technology-led startups and innovation schemes like Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE 2.0), Gen-Next Support for Innovative Startups (GENESIS), domain specific Centres of Excellence (CoEs) and Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) have been undertaken with a total funding outlay of around Rs 800 crore in the country including tier-2 and tier-3 cities. In addition, Government had launched India BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) Promotion Scheme (IBPS) & North East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) by setting up of 246 units of BPO operations across 27 States/UTs of the country distributed across 104 small cities/towns.

(b) As of March 2024, out of a total Internet Subscribers of 954.40 million in India there are 398.35 million Rural Internet Subscribers. Further, as of April 2024, out of 6,44,131 villages in the country (villages data as per Registrar General of India), 6,12,952 villages are having 3G/4G mobile connectivity. Thus, 95.15 % villages are having access to internet.

(c) The total internet subscribers in the country have increased from 251.59 million as on March 2014 to 954.40 million in March 2024 at Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 14.26%.
