GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1555 ANSWERED ON:29.07.2015 Investment in Digital India

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

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

(a) whether the Government has allowed/proposes to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and investment from private sector in the Digital India initiative;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds likely to be roped in from private sector or proposed by them to invest;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any time-frame for implementation of various schemes under Digital India;

(d) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and

(e) the funds sharing model between Union and State Governments for implementation of various projects under Digital India?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (e): Government of India has approved the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments. It weaves together a large number of ideas and thoughts into a single, comprehensive vision so that each of them can be implemented as part of a larger goal. Each individual element stands on its own, but is also part of the entire Government. Digital India is implemented by the entire Government and being coordinated by the Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY).

The vision of Digital India is centred on three key areas, viz. (i) Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen, (ii) Governance and Services on Demand and (iii) Digital Empowerment of Citizens. Digital India aims to provide the much needed thrust to nine pillars of growth areas viz. (i) Broadband Highways, (ii) Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, (iii) Public Internet Access Programme, (iv) e-Governance – Reforming Government through Technology, (v) e-Kranti– Electronic delivery of services, (vi) Information for All, (vii) Electronics Manufacturing – Target NET ZERO Imports, (viii) IT for Jobs and (ix) Early Harvest Programmes.

Various projects/schemes under above pillars of growth areas of Digital India programme are at various stages of implementation. Some of the projects have been completed, some are of ongoing nature and others are under implementation / approval. The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and investment from private sector are allowed as per existing norms. Each project/scheme approved has its timeline of completion and mode of funding.
