

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2900

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014

FREE WI FI UNDER DIGITAL INDIA

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

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- (a) the progress in implementation of the Digital India programme;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to seek global cooperation to rollout the programme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government provides or is taking any initiatives to provide free Wi-Fi in public places such as Museums, Airport, Railway Stations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the State-wise places where the said facility has been provided so far?

Answer

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

(a): Government of India is implementing the "Digital India" programme with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge economy. A conference of IT Ministers/Secretaries of all States/UTs was conducted on 26.08.2014. All Central Ministries/ Departments and all States/UTs have been apprised about the Digital India programme and its various components and have been requested to take immediate steps to implement the programme components pertaining to their domains.

Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) has implemented Aadhaar based Jeevan Praman & Biometric attendance. Several workshops have been organized e.g. "Universally accessible digital resources" and "Shareable Private Space on Public Cloud" on 16.10.2014, "Mobile as an instrument of digital identity and financial inclusion" on 17.10.2014, "Open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)" on 31.10.2014. Existing applications are being re-designed for real-time cloud based platform and efforts are being made for use of mobile as a digital identity to help delivery of eServices through mobiles. Government of India (GI) Cloud platform 'MeghRaj' is operational. Targeted NIELIT courses are being redesigned. e-Bhasha has been proposed as a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under e-Kranti. MyGov platform has been implemented and is being used as a platform for citizen interaction. Under e-Kranti, 3 new MMPs have been proposed and revamping exercise of MMPs like Transport and PDS has been initiated. Online messaging using SMS and email has also been implemented. IT Platform for Messages and eGreetings have been made fully operational.

(b): No, Sir.

(c), (d) and (e): To provide wi-fi services in public places, discussions are being held with the industry and models for provisioning of wi-fi public services are being worked out.

Data regarding connectivity and bandwidth availability in these tourist places have been collected from the Telecom Service Providers. Tourist places, where data connectivity is not available, have also been identified.