GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 573
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.12.2023

KNOWLEDGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

573. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
 SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:SHRI ARUN SAO:
 SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
 SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAMSHRANGARE:
 SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIKNIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS ANDINFORMATION TECHNOLOGYbe pleased to state:

 (a)   whether the Government is aware that the future workforce is equipped with the knowledge in the area of Artificial Intelligence that is imperative for the growth of the country;
 (b)   the details of the funds allocated, released and utilized under various schemes for promoting Artificial Intelligence during the last three years, year and State/UT-wise; and
 (c)   the steps taken by Government to impart the knowledge of Artificial Intelligence to the youth of the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (c):Artificial Intelligence is the greatest invention in recent times and the Government expects artificial intelligence to be a kinetic enabler of India's fastgrowing digital and innovation economy. The Government wants that AI is available with safety and trust for all our digital nagriks and to avoid the negative use of AI. The Government's mission is to harness the potential of AI for real life use cases in governance, healthcare, agriculture, language translation, etc. to make AI is beneficial to citizens and communities. A report created by a team of experts has been prepared for IndiaAI. The copy of the report is available at MeitY website.

The various initiatives taken by the Government to expand IndiaAI ecosystem and connect the AI opportunities to the youth of the country are as under:

•   Skilling &global talent plays an important role in our governments Artificial Intelligence goals &MeitY has initiated 'FutureSkills PRIME' a programme for Re-skilling/Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability in 10 new/emerging technologies. These include AI, Blockchain, Robotics, Big Data & Analytics, IoT, Virtual Reality, Cybersecurity, Cloud Computing, 3D Printing and Web 3.0.So far, a total of 1,77,170 candidates got enrolled in various AI-related courses, out of which 82,912 candidates have completed their course. Also, selected Centres of CDAC and NIELIT participating in the programme have so far trained 1,236 Government Officials and 292 Trainers in AI technology.

•   Government has initiated 'Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme' with the objective to enhance the number of PhDs in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors including AI and Emerging Technologies.

- Government has launched Responsible AI for Youth 2022, on July 30, 2022. The Programme was designed to reach out to students from Government schools on pan India basis and provide them with an opportunity to become part of the skilled workforce in an inclusive manner. The programme impacted 52,628 students across 35 States and UTs, empowering youth with necessary AI skillsets, who had limited or no access to the latest technologies and resources.
- National e-Governance Division (NeGD), MeitY in collaboration with its partners, has launched 'YUVAi: Youth for Unnati and Vikas with AI'- A National Programme for School Students with the objective of enabling school students from classes 8[th]to 12[th]with AI tech and social skills in an inclusive manner. The programme will provide a platform for youth to learn and apply AI skills in 8 thematic areas- Krishi, Aarogya, Shiksha, Paryavaran, Parivahan, Grameen Vikas, Smart Cities and Vidhi aur Nyaay.

(b):   The initiatives taken by the Government for expanding IndiaAI ecosystem are for the entire country. Further, the above-mentioned initiatives are implemented by the Central Ministries/Departments through their implementing agencies, and the funds are not allocated to any States/UTs. The Responsible AI for Youth programme is being implemented in association with Industry partner and there is no funding support from the Government. The details of funds allocated and released under these initiatives is annexed as Annexure 1.

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Annexure 1

Details of funds allocated and released:

Name of Programme /Scheme	Funds Allocated	Funds released in FY 2019-20	Funds released in FY 2020-21	Funds released in FY 2021-22	Funds released in FY 2022-23	Funds released in FY 2023-24	Total Utilized
FutureSkills PRIME Programme	Rs. 436.87 Cr	Rs. 43.36 Cr.	Rs. 80.0 Cr.	Rs. 26.59 Cr.		0	Rs. 131.29 Cr.
Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme	Phase-I:Rs. 466 Cr	0	0	0	Rs. 3.16 Cr.	Rs. 6.84 Cr.	Rs. 10.0 Cr.
	Phase-II: Rs. 481.93 Cr.	0	0	0	Rs. 1.06 Cr.	Rs. 3.16 Cr.	Rs. 4.22 Cr.
AI4ICPS Foundation, IIT Kharagpur	Rs. 170 Cr.	Rs. 5.45 Cr.	Rs. 15.0 Cr.	0	0	0	Rs. 1.13 Cr.

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