

**24**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNICATIONS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(2025-26)**

**EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2026-27)**

**TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

*March, 2026/ Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)*

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(2026-27)**

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 16.03.2026*

*Laid in Rajya Sabha on 16.03.2026*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

*March, 2026/ Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)*

**CCIT No. 436**

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**Composition of the Standing Committee on Communications and  
Information Technology (2025-26)**

**Dr. Nishikant Dubey - Chairperson**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri C.N. Annadurai
3. Shri Anil Baluni
4. Dr. Rabindra Narayan Behera
5. Shri Anup Sanjay Dhotre
6. Shri Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer
7. Shri Sanjay Haribhau Jadhav
8. Shri S. Supongmeren Jamir
9. Shri Appalanaidu Kalisetti
10. Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai Maadam
11. Shri G. Kumar Naik
12. Shri Shafi Parambil
13. Dr. M.K. Vishnu Prasad
14. Ms. Kangna Ranaut
15. Shri Radheshyam Rathiya
16. Shri Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy
17. Shri Arun Kumar Sagar
18. Shri Devesh Shakya
19. Shri Vishnu Datt Sharma
20. Shri Rajesh Verma
21. Vacant

**Rajya Sabha**

22. Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi
23. Shri Saket Gokhale
24. Shri Sujeet Kumar
25. Shri Amar Pal Maurya
26. Dr. Sasmit Patra
27. Shri Kanad Purkayastha
28. Shri S. Niranjana Reddy
29. Shri Kartikeya Sharma
30. Shri Lahar Singh Siroya
31. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                          |   |                 |
|----|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri Harish Chandra Bist | — | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. A. Jyothirmayi      | — | Director        |
| 3. | Shri Salil Saroj         | — | Under Secretary |

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology (2025-26), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2026-27) of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

2. The Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology (2025-26) was constituted on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2025. One of the functions of the Standing Committee, as laid down in Rule 331E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, is to consider the Demands for Grants of the Ministry concerned and make a Report on the same to the Houses.

3. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology for the Financial Year 2026-27 which were laid on the Table of the House on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2026. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2026.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2026.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the information that the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their appreciation for the assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

7. For facility of reference and convenience, Observations/Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in Part-II of the Report.

New Delhi;  
13<sup>th</sup> March, 2026  
22 Phalguna, 1947 (Saka)

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY,**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Communications and Information Technology.**

## **Part-I** **Report**

### **I. Introductory**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), under Government of India, is a stand-alone ministerial agency, responsible for formulating and implementing national policies and programmes aimed at enabling the continuous development of the electronics and IT industry. MeitY's focus areas include the development, promotion, and regulation of the electronics and IT industry in India, fostering digital governance, enabling innovation in emerging technologies and promoting cyber security initiatives within country. The Mission of MeitY is to promote Digital Governance for empowering citizens, promoting the inclusive and sustainable growth of the Electronics, IT & ITeS industries, enhancing India's role in Internet Governance, adopting a multipronged approach that includes development of human resources, promoting R&D and innovation, enhancing efficiency through digital services and ensuring a secure cyber space.

2. The objectives of this Ministry are to formulate and implement national policies and programmes for e-Government i.e., Providing e-infrastructure for delivery of e-services; e-Industry i.e., Promotion of electronics hardware manufacturing and IT-ITeS industry; e-Innovation / R&D i.e., Implementation of R&D Framework - Enabling creation of Innovation/ R&D Infrastructure in emerging areas of ICT&E/Establishment of mechanism for R&D translation; e-Learning i.e., Providing support for development of e-Skills and Knowledge network; e-Security i.e., Securing India's cyber space; e-Inclusion i.e., Promoting the use of ICT for more inclusive growth; and Internet Governance i.e., Enhancing India's role in Global Platforms of Internet Governance.

3. According to the Ministry, its functions are to deal with:

- Policy matters relating to information technology; Electronics; and Internet (all matters other than licensing of Internet Service Provider).
- Promotion of internet, IT and IT enabled services.
- Promotion of Digital Transactions excluding Digital Payments.
- Assistance to other departments in the promotion of E-Governance, E-Commerce, E- Medicine, E- Infrastructure, etc.

- Promotion of Information Technology education and Information Technology-based education.
- Matters relating to Cyber Laws, administration of the Information Technology Act. 2000 (21 of 2000) and other IT related laws.
- Matters relating to online gaming.
- Matters relating to Cyber Security as assigned in the Information Technology Act, 2000 (21 of 2000) (as amended from time to time) and support to other Ministries / Departments on Cyber Security.
- Matters relating to promotion and manufacturing of Semiconductor Devices in the Country.
- Interaction in IT related matters with international agencies and bodies e. g. Internet for Business Limited (IFB), Institute for Education in Information Society (IBI) and International Code Council — on line (ICC).
- Initiatives on bridging the Digital Divide: Matters relating to Digital India Corporation.
- Promotion of Standardization, Testing and Quality in IT and standardization of procedure for IT application and Tasks.
- Electronics Export and Computer Software Promotion Council (ESC).
- National Informatics Centre (NIC).
- Initiatives for development of Hardware/Software industry including knowledge—based enterprises, measures for promoting IT exports and competitiveness of the industry.
- All matters relating to personnel under the control of the Ministry.
- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- Semi-Conductor Laboratory, Mohali.

**II. Implementation status of the Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2025-26) of MeitY**

4. The Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology on the 'Demands for Grants' of MeitY for the year 2025-26 was presented to the Lok Sabha on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 and laid in the Rajya Sabha on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025. Under Rule 34(1) of 'Rules of Procedure of Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs)', the Ministry/Department concerned is required to furnish a statement showing the action taken by them on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee within three months from the date of the presentation of the Report. The Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Ninth Report on "Demands for Grants (2025-26)" was presented to the Lok Sabha/laid in Rajya Sabha on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2025. Out of the 12 recommendations of the Committee in their Seventeenth Report, 8 were accepted. 04 replies were interim in nature. The Final Action Taken Statement on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report was presented to the Lok Sabha/laid in the Rajya Sabha on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

**III. Budget Analysis**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) presented Demand No. 27 for the Financial Year 2026-27 on 11.02.2026.

5. The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last and current financial year is as under:

**(Rs. in crore)**

	<b>Proposed (2025-26)</b>	<b>BE (2025-26)</b>	<b>RE (2025-26)</b>	<b>Actuals (2025-26)*</b>	<b>Proposed (2026-27)</b>	<b>BE (2026-27)</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	27575.35	25583.11	19846.32	12842.18	27299.93	21234.15
<b>Capital</b>	648.43	443.14	386.63	206.52	869.07	398.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>28223.78</b>	<b>26026.25</b>	<b>20232.95</b>	<b>13048.70</b>	<b>28169.00</b>	<b>21632.96</b>

6. When asked to state the reasons, in respect of Revenue Section of the Budget of the Ministry, for increase/decrease in allocation made at RE stage during the year 2025-26, the actual expenditure under Revenue head during the year 2025-26 along with the reasons for increase/decrease in the actual utilization, the Ministry in its written reply has stated:

“The revenue provision in BE 2026-27 has been reduced by Rs.4348.96 cr than that of in BE 2025-26. The reduction in BE 2026-27 is especially due to closure of tenure of “Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM)” component of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme on 31.03.2026. It is stated that FY 2025-26 being the last performance year under PLI Scheme for LSEM, majority of companies have achieved their targets and already filed for quarterly/half-yearly claims in FY25-26. The BE 2026-27 provision for LSEM is based on the remaining claims expected to be filed in FY 2026-27.

There is a decrease in allocation of about Rs.5736.79 cr under Revenue Section in RE 2025-26 in view of budgetary cut by Ministry of Finance at RE stage. The budgetary cut was mainly due to imposition of a cut in budget provisions by MoF in view of less expenditure during the first two quarters of FY 2025-26, especially under the following schemes:

**Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India:** It is stated that semiconductor manufacturing in India is at a nascent stage and is a highly complex, technology-intensive sector requiring substantial and sustained investment, and the approved companies must fulfil stipulated conditions before execution of these agreements. Due to the complexity of the projects and associated legal implications, companies are taking considerable time to meet these conditions, resulting in delays in execution of the agreements.

**Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI):** The BE 2025-26 provision for this scheme was based on projections received from applicants for the scheme. However, the actual expenditure incurred is as per the incentives disbursed to the companies which could achieve the investment and sales turnover threshold defined under the respective schemes and subsequent filing of the claim by the companies. Hence, there is a gap between the anticipated expenditure and actual expenditure.

**IndiaAI Mission:** The variation in allocation from Budget Estimates (BE) to Revised Estimates (RE) during FY 2025–26 is primarily attributable to the implementation dynamics of the IndiaAI Mission, which is presently in its second year of execution, following its approval on 7 March 2024. During the initial phase of the Mission, activities focused on institutional setup, formulation of

implementation frameworks, stakeholder consultations, and finalization of operational guidelines. As the Mission progressed, implementation efforts have accelerated in recent months, leading to scaling up of activities across multiple pillars, including capacity building, research and development, ecosystem enablement, and international collaboration.”

7. When asked to furnish the reasons, in respect of Capital Section of the Budget of the Ministry, for the increase/decrease in the allocation made at RE stage during 2025-26 along with the details of shortfall in achieving the targets during 2025-26, the Committee was apprised as under:

“The capital provision was decreased by Rs.56.51 crore in RE 2025-26, especially due to less expenditure incurred during the first two quarters in view of non-finalization of some tenders for technical reasons.

The capital provision in BE 2026-27 has been decreased by Rs.44.33 cr from that of provided in BE 2025-26. The variation is due to less requirement of capital funds by NIC in view of engagement of Managed Service Providers (MSPs) for carrying out the security operations of the Data Centres of NIC across the country and anticipated less ICT expenses.”

#### **IV. Position of Outstanding UCs and unspent Balances with States' implementing agencies**

8. On outstanding UCs and unspent Balances, the Ministry has submitted the following details (as on 3rd February, 2026):

“As per the revised procedure for flow of funds which has been implemented with effect from 1st April, 2022, the unspent balances, if any available with Implementing agencies at the end of Financial Year, would cease to exist under Model I Schemes (having annual financial outlay of more than 100 cr). However, in case of Model-II Schemes (having annual financial outlay of less than 100 cr), the unutilized funds will remain with Central Nodal Account of the respective schemes and will not be available to Implementing Agencies for utilization, as per the existing instructions. Hence, no unspent balance of grants released during the previous years is presently lying with the implementing agencies except for (i) Rs.15.40 cr in respect of two long-pending UCs for which action has been taken at the level of Secretary and are likely to be liquidated soon and (ii) the unspent

balances out of the grants released during the current financial year which would become zero at the end of the financial year. The details are as under:

	<b>Amount (Rs. in crore)</b>	<b>No. of UCs</b>
<b>Utilisation Certificates due</b>	<b>15.40</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Unspent Balances for which UCs are not due (in respect of grants released during FY 2025-26) as on 03.02.2026</b>	<b>2987.30</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Unspent Balance with implementing Agencies (as on 03.02.2026)</b>	<b>3002.70</b>	<b>2</b>

9. Furnishing the measures taken by the Ministry for timely submission of UCs by the States/implementing agencies and its effectiveness, the following was submitted to the Committee:

“As per Revised Procedure for Flow of Funds, implementing agencies are being released grant on the principle of just-in time release and any unspent balance out of the released grant remain lapsed to Consolidated Fund of India at the end of the financial year. Although PFMS reflects the utilization of funds, yet MeitY has been insisting upon the grantee bodies for timely submission of UCs to comply with the provisions of GFR. Moreover, the following actions have been taken by MeitY to ensure optimum utilization of funds/submission of UCs:

- MeitY is monitoring/reviewing implementation status of schemes/projects from time to time to ensure smooth implementation of various projects which further ensures that the grants released by MeitY are being utilized in a proper and productive manner.
- Secretary and Financial Adviser (MeitY) review the UC status from time to time to adhere to GFR provisions
- Grantee bodies are released grants in installments for implementation of various projects, taking into consideration the unspent balances with them.
- Project Review and Steering Committee (PRSG) monitors and evaluates the project progress and utilization of the funds as per approval and make recommendations for release of financial assistance.

The liquidation status of pending UCs as on 1.4.2025 and 12.01.2026 as given below is an indication of fruitful measures being taken by MeitY to reduce the pending UCs and thereby heading towards zero pending UC.

	As on 01.04.2025	As on 31.12.2025	Difference/ Liquidated (As on 12.01.2026)	% of Liquidation
Number of pending UCs	140	2	138	99%
Pending Amount (Rupees in crore)	333.38	15.40	317.98	95%

## V. Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR)

10. The Ministry provided the details of Budgetary Allocation to IEBR since the Financial Year 2022-23 to 2026-27 as under:

(Rs. in crore)

IEBR	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	1628.08	2199.12	3268.71	3380.87	3232.88
<b>BE</b>	1628.08	2199.12	3268.71	3380.87	3232.88
<b>RE</b>	1632.98	2851.57	3772.44	3110.90	-
<b>Actual</b>	1932.90	3044.33	3527.58	2365.09*	-
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	118.37%	106.76%	93.51%	76%	-

\*As on 31.12.2025

11. When asked to furnish the reasons for increase/decrease from BE to RE during 2025-26 and actual status of IEBR targets achieved along with the reasons, in case of any shortfall in achieving the IEBR target during 2025-26, the Ministry stated:

“The IEBR target in RE 2025-26 has been reduced by Rs.269.97 cr, especially due to delay in sanction of grants in respect some ongoing projects. The IEBR target for FY 2025-26 is likely to be achieved.”

12. Further, when the Committee wanted to know the reasons for variation of IEBR between BE 2025-26 and BE 2026-27 and how Autonomous societies/bodies are planning to meet IEBR targets during 2026-27, it was submitted by the Ministry as:

“The IEBR target in BE 2026-27 is about Rs.48 cr less than that of in BE 2025-26. The reduction is due to closure of some projects being implemented by the autonomous societies. MeitY is hopeful that the IEBR achievements would be more than that of the target for FY 2026-27.”

## VI. Overall Budget of MeitY

13. Scheme-wise details of BE, RE and Actual Expenditure from 2023-24 to 2025-26 and BE for 2026-27 as furnished by the Ministry is as under:

S. No.	Scheme/Non-Scheme	2023-24			2024-25			2025-26			2026-27	
		BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual as on 31.12.2025	Proposed	BE
1	MeitY Secretariat	140.00	145.00	152.73	175.00	210.00	175.27	210.25	184.62	125.19	210.00	195.00
2	National Informatics Centre (NIC)	1527.26	1552.00	1406.19	1748.64	1538.34	1379.60	1600.00	1550.00	1047.09	2000.00	1595.00
3	Regulatory Authorities	373.50	377.50	396.68	429.00	408.00	388.19	445.00	454.00	317.34	597.00	464.00
3.1	Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC)	135.50	157.00	136.38	175.00	150.00	120.66	170.00	160.00	80.78	230.00	169.00
3.2	Cyber Security (CERT-In)	225.00	208.00	249.28	238.00	241.00	254.88	255.00	277.00	229.64	330.00	269.00
3.3	Controller of Certifying Authority (CCA)	13.00	12.50	11.02	14.00	15.00	12.65	15.00	15.00	6.92	17.00	16.00
3.4	Data Protection Board (DPB)				2.00	2.00	0.00	5.00	2.00	0.00	20.00	10.00
	<b>SCHEMES</b>	<b>12440.28</b>	<b>10491.25</b>	<b>9139.63</b>	<b>17871.26</b>	<b>13766.47</b>	<b>10174.01</b>	<b>22071.00</b>	<b>16451.33</b>	<b>10290.08</b>	<b>23030.00</b>	<b>17768.55</b>
4	Digital India Program (Umbrella Programme)	4795.24	4428.01	4174.12	4216.51	4000.00	3760.37	4071.00	4344.45	3264.13	6530.00	4741.51
4.1	Capacity Building & Skill Development Scheme	537.50	454.01	434.16	537.50	537.50	476.19	575.00	500.00	497.16	600.00	600.00
4.2	Electronic Governance (incl. EAP)	555.74	588.00	571.64	650.00	656.00	669.73	617.00	617.00	530.05	750.00	628.18
4.3	National Knowledge Network (NKK)	352.00	582.00	581.94	240.26	490.26	490.24	0.25	665.00	594.90	700.00	665.00
4.4	Promotion of Electronics & IT Hardware mfg. (MSIPS, EDF and Manufacturing Clusters)	700.00	700.00	694.27	750.00	677.68	676.53	712.00	619.81	442.60	860.00	720.00
4.5	Promotion of IT/ITeS Industries	150.00	120.00	115.76	130.00	128.50	59.31	130.00	90.62	85.02	120.00	90.00
4.6	R&D in IT/Electronics/CCBT	600.00	1000.00	877.09	1148.25	1183.56	1175.51	1249.75	1249.75	861.90	2000.00	1248.33
4.7	Cyber Security Projects (NCCC & Others)	400.00	400.00	316.51	759.00	322.00	210.99	782.00	600.00	251.38	1500.00	790.00
4.8	Promotion of Digital Payments	1500.00	584.00	582.75								
4.8	Promotion of Digital Transactions (excluding Digital Payments)				1.50	4.50	1.87	5.00	2.27	1.12	0.00	0.00
5	Other Schemes	7645.04	6063.24	4965.51	13654.75	9766.47	6413.64	18000.00	12106.88	7025.95	16500.00	13027.04
5.1	IndiaAI Mission				551.75	173.00	19.24	2000.00	800.00	256.86	2000.00	1000.00
5.2	Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme	4645.04	4559.88	4284.40	6200.00	5777.00	5756.33	9000.00	7000.00	3881.21	1400.00	1527.04
5.2.1	Production Linked Incentive for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing	4499.04	4489.46	4230.30	6125.00	5747.00	5738.61	8885.00	6960.00	3869.77	1200.00	1345.04
5.2.2	Production Linked Incentive for IT Hardware	146.00	70.42	54.10	75.00	30.00	17.72	115.00	40.00	11.44	200.00	182.00
5.3	Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India	3000.00	1503.36	681.11	6903.00	3816.47	638.07	7000.00	4300.08	2885.88	13000.00	8000.00
5.3.1	Modified Scheme for setting up of Compound Semiconductors/Silicon Photonics/Sensors Fab/Discrete	1799.92	1424.84	644.32	4203.00	2500.00	561.83	3900.00	3175.08	2863.91	6100.00	5000.00

	Semiconductors Fab and Semiconductor Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP)/Outsources Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facilities in India											
5.3.2	Modified Scheme for setting up of Semiconductors Fabs in India	1000.00	12.51	0.00	1500.00	1200.00	0.00	2499.96	1000.00	0.33	5500.00	2000.00
5.3.3	Modified Scheme for setting up of Display Fabs in India	0.04	0.01	0.00	100.00	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.3.4	Modernisation of Semi-Conductor Laboratory, Mohali	0.04	16.00	6.23	900.00	11.00	7.79	400.00	20.00	0.00	1200.00	900.00
5.3.5	Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme	200.00	50.00	30.56	200.00	105.46	68.45	200.00	105.00	21.64	200.00	100.00
5.4	Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme								6.80	2.00	100.00	1500.00
5.5	India Semiconductor Mission 2.0											1000.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Assistance to Autonomous and Other Bodies</b>	<b>2068.00</b>	<b>1855.50</b>	<b>1751.86</b>	<b>1713.00</b>	<b>1643.50</b>	<b>1553.45</b>	<b>1700.00</b>	<b>1593.00</b>	<b>1269.00</b>	<b>2332.00</b>	<b>1610.41</b>
6.1	Centre for Dev. of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	270.00	275.00	275.00	274.00	320.00	280.00
6.2	Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER)	160.00	150.00	150.00	160.00	160.00	155.00	160.00	150.00	150.00	160.00	165.00
6.2	Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET)	110.00	100.00	83.02	110.00	90.00	73.22	100.00	80.00	55.00	110.00	100.00
6.3	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Information [BISAG(N)]	44.00	29.50	23.90	20.00	20.00	20.00	50.00	20.00	20.00	55.00	55.00
6.4	Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL)	533.00	493.00	409.94	540.00	490.00	418.23	500.00	445.00	320.00	465.00	420.00
6.5	Digital India Corporation (DIC)	11.00	13.00	15.00	13.00	13.50	17.00	15.00	18.00	10.00	22.00	18.00
6.6	Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)	940.00	800.00	800.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	605.00	440.00	1200.00	572.41
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>16549.04</b>	<b>14421.25</b>	<b>12847.09</b>	<b>21936.90</b>	<b>17566.31</b>	<b>13661.32</b>	<b>26026.25</b>	<b>20232.95</b>	<b>13048.70</b>	<b>28169.00</b>	<b>21632.96</b>

**14.** The analysis of Demands for Grants that is percentage increase in various Programme Heads and Major Heads over the last 5 years as given by the Ministry is depicted below:

## MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### Analysis of Demands for Grants that is percentage increase in various Programme Heads over the last 5 years

Sl. No	Scheme / Programme	BE 2021-22	BE 2022-23	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	BE 2026-27	% increased				
		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
								2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
<b>1</b>	<b>Secretariat-Economic Services (DeitY)</b>	<b>109.33</b>	<b>109.82</b>	<b>140.00</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>210.25</b>	<b>195.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-7</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>National Informatic Centre (NIC)</b>	<b>1400.00</b>	<b>1450.00</b>	<b>1527.26</b>	<b>1748.64</b>	<b>1600.00</b>	<b>1595.00</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Regulatory Authorities</b>	<b>345.00</b>	<b>344.00</b>	<b>373.50</b>	<b>429.00</b>	<b>445.00</b>	<b>464.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
(i)	STQC Programme	120.00	120.00	135.50	175.00	170.00	169.00	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>-1</b>
(ii)	Cyber Security (CERT-In & CAT)	216.00	215.00	225.00	238.00	255.00	269.00	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
(iii)	Contoller of Certifying Authority (CCA)	9.00	9.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
(iv)	Data Protection Board				2.00	5.00	10.00					<b>100</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Assistance to Autonomous &amp; Other Bodies</b>	<b>1060.00</b>	<b>1720.00</b>	<b>2068.00</b>	<b>1713.00</b>	<b>1700.00</b>	<b>1610.41</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-5</b>
(i)	Centre for Dev. of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)	200.00	250.00	270.00	270.00	275.00	280.00	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
(ii)	Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engg & Research (SAMEER)	120.00	150.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	165.00	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

(iii)	Centre for Material for Electronics Technology	80.00	100.00	110.00	110.00	100.00	100.00	25	10	0	-9	0
(iv)	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Information [BISAG-N]	50.00	100.00	44.00	20.00	50.00	55.00		-56	-55	150	10
(v)	Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL)			533.00	540.00	500.00	420.00				-7	-16
(vi)	Digital India Corporation (erstwhile MLA)	10.00	10.00	11.00	13.00	15.00	18.00	0	10	18	15	20
(vii)	Unique Identification Authority of India	600.00	1110.00	940.00	600.00	600.00	572.41	85	-15	-36	0	-5
<b>5</b>	<b>Digital India Programme</b>	<b>6806.32</b>	<b>5376.17</b>	<b>4795.24</b>	<b>4216.51</b>	<b>4071.00</b>	<b>4741.51</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>16</b>
(i)	Capacity Building and Skill Development Scheme (Manpower Development + PMGDISHA)	700.00	600.00	537.50	537.50	575.00	600.00	-14	-10	0	7	4
(ii)	Electronic Governance (incl. EAP)	425.00	525.00	555.74	650.00	617.00	628.18	24	6	17	-5	2
(iii)	National Knowledge Network	500.00	650.00	352.00	240.26	0.25	665.00	30	-46	-32	-100	26590
(iv)	Promotion of Electronics & IT Hardware mfg. (MSIPS, EDF & Manufacturing of Clusters)	2631.32	2403.00	700.00	750.00	712.00	720.00	-9	-71	7	-5	1
(v)	Promotion of IT & ITes Industries	150.00	100.00	150.00	130.00	130.00	90.00	-33	50	-13	0	-31
(vi)	R&D in IT/Electronics/CCBT	700.00	598.17	600.00	1148.25	1249.75	1248.33	-15	0	91	9	0
(vii)	Cyber Security Projects (NCCC &	200.00	300.00	400.00	759.00	782.00	790.00	50	33	90	3	1

	Others)											
(vii i)	Promotion of Digital Payment	1500.00	200.00	1500.00	1.50	5.00	0.00	-87	650	-100	233	-100
<b>6</b>	<b>Other Central Sector Schemes</b>		<b>5300.00</b>	<b>7645.04</b>	<b>13654.75</b>	<b>18000.00</b>	<b>13027.04</b>			<b>79</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-28</b>
(i)	IndiaAI Mission				551.75	2000.00	1000.00					-50
(ii)	Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)		5300.00	4645.04	6200.00	9000.00	1527.04			<b>33</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-83</b>
(iii)	Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Ecosystem Manufacturing in India			3000.00	6903.00	7000.00	8000.00				<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>
(iv)	Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)						1500.00					
(v)	India Semiconductor Mission 2.0						1000.00					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9720.65</b>	<b>14299.99</b>	<b>16549.04</b>	<b>21936.90</b>	<b>26026.25</b>	<b>21632.96</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-17</b>

**MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**Analysis of Demands for Grants, i.e. percentage  
increase in various Major Heads over the last 5 years**

S. No.	Major Head	BE 2021-22	BE 2022-23	BE 2023-24	BE 2024-25	BE 2025-26	BE 2026-27	% increased					
		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	
		<i>(Rs. In crore)</i>											
1	2552	680.64	1067.62	1244.03	1787.13	2207.10	1576.86	56.86	16.52	43.66	23.50	-28.56	
2	2852	6734.69	10432.55	12544.80	17443.02	21226.44	17519.18	54.91	20.25	39.05	21.69	-17.47	
3	3451	1259.33	1301.82	1451.53	1525.74	1549.57	1565.70	3.37	11.50	5.11	1.56	1.04	
5	3454	600.00	1110.00	940.00	600.00	600.00	572.41	85.00	-15.32	-36.17	0.00	-4.60	
7	4859	196.00	130.01	152.95	183.11	182.46	174.51	-33.67	17.64	19.72	-0.35	-4.36	
8	5475	250.00	258.00	215.73	397.90	260.68	224.30	3.20	-16.38	84.44	-34.49	-13.96	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9720.66</b>	<b>14300.00</b>	<b>16549.04</b>	<b>21936.90</b>	<b>26026.25</b>	<b>21632.96</b>	<b>47.11</b>	<b>15.73</b>	<b>32.56</b>	<b>18.64</b>	<b>-16.88</b>	

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Major Head 2552 – North Eastern Areas

Major Head 2852 – Industries

Major Head 3451– Secretariat Economic Services

Major Head 3454 – Census Surveys and Statistics

Major Head 4859 – Capital Outlay on Telecommunication and Electronic Industries

Major Head 5475 – Capital Outlay on Other General Economic Services

15. During the course of examination of the Subject, the Committee asked the Ministry to furnish reasons for variation from BE to RE during 2025-26 and details of the schemes where there have been major shortfalls in achieving the targets during 2025-26 along with the reasons for poor performance, if any, during 2025-26. To this, the Ministry submitted as under:

“The main reason for variation from BE to RE during 2025-26 is less expenditure incurred during the first two quarters of FY 2025-26. The Schemes where major shortfalls were observed during FY 2025-26 are as under:

**Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India**

The funds allocated at BE stage were Rs 7000.00 Crore which were reduced at RE stage to Rs 4300.08 crore. This Programme offers the fiscal support to approved companies on pari-passu basis, which requires legal agreements to be executed before the fiscal support can be released to the approved company. India Semiconductor Mission, the nodal agency, executes agreements such as Fiscal Support Agreement (FSA), Trust Retention Agreement etc., with the applicant company and project company for the disbursement of fiscal support under the programme. Given that semiconductor manufacturing in India is at a nascent stage and is a highly complex, technology-intensive sector requiring substantial and sustained investment, approved companies must fulfil stipulated conditions before execution of these agreements. Due to the complexity of the projects and associated legal implications, companies are taking considerable time to meet these conditions, resulting in delays in execution of the agreements.

**PLI for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing Scheme (PLI-LSEM)**

BE for FY 25-26 was INR 8,875 Cr and RE is INR 6,960 Cr. Actual expenditure incurred till Dec'25 is INR 3869.77 Cr, and incentive claims of ~INR 1,225 Cr are under scrutiny at the PMA. Further claims of INR 2400 Cr are expected to be filed by applicants in month of Jan-Feb'26. The BE for FY 2025-26 was based on projections received from applicants for the scheme. However, the actual expenditure incurred is as per the incentives disbursed to the companies which could achieve the investment and sales turnover threshold defined under the respective schemes and subsequent filing of the claim by the companies.

## **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware**

BE for FY 25-26 was INR 115 Cr and RE is INR 40 Cr. Actual expenditure incurred till 31.12.2025 is INR 11.43 Cr and incentive claims of ~INR 29.3 Cr is under scrutiny at the PMA. The budget allocated for FY 2025-26 was based on projections received from applicants for the scheme. However, the actual expenditure incurred is as per the incentives disbursed to the companies which could achieve the investment and sales turnover threshold defined under the scheme and subsequent filing of the claim by the companies. The IT hardware manufacturing ecosystem in India is still at a nascent stage and has been scaling up gradually. Further, two major players under the scheme had opted for a two-year gestation period. They have commenced their production in FY 2025-26 and will file incentive claims going forward.

**IndiaAI Mission:** The variation in allocation from Budget Estimates (BE) to Revised Estimates (RE) during FY 2025–26 is primarily attributable to the implementation dynamics of the IndiaAI Mission, which is presently in its second year of execution, following its approval on 7 March 2024.

During the initial phase of the Mission, activities focused on institutional setup, formulation of implementation frameworks, stakeholder consultations, and finalization of operational guidelines. As the Mission progressed, implementation efforts have accelerated in recent months, leading to scaling up of activities across multiple pillars, including capacity building, research and development, ecosystem enablement, and international collaboration.

Accordingly, fund utilization has increased in line with the ramping up of programmatic activities. Further, to enhance awareness, global outreach, and participation of national and international organizations, the Ministry organized an international event, the “India AI Impact Summit 2026,” in February 2026. The Summit was a key platform to showcase India’s AI initiatives, foster global partnerships, and catalyze investments and collaborations under the IndiaAI Mission, which has also contributed to adjustments in expenditure planning and utilization.

16. When the Committee desired to know about the schemes where there has been persistent underutilization of funds during the last three years and steps taken by the Ministry to ensure better performance of these schemes, the Ministry replied as under:

**“Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India**

The nodal agency is regularly monitoring the progress/execution of the projects through Fortnightly Coordination Meetings and Monthly Project Reviews. MeitY is providing all kind of support as requested by the approved companies by coordinating with other Ministries/Departments. Further, PMO is also regularly reviewing the project progress by having meetings with State Governments and companies. In FY 2025–26, effective fund utilization has also shown significant improvement, and it is expected that more than 90% of the allocated funds will be utilized.

**PLI for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing Scheme (PLI-LSEM)**

As the electronics industry had just started to recover after COVID-19 pandemic, approximately 75% budget was utilized in FY2022-23 under PLI Schemes for LSEM and IT Hardware. MeitY has actively engaged with the applicants to resolve various issues being faced by the applicants in Government machinery and has encouraged early filing of the claims. Further, budget utilization was 94% and 99.85% in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 respectively under PLI Scheme for LSEM.

**Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware**

Budget utilization was 89% and 59% in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 respectively under PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware. The budget allocated for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 were based on projections received from applicants for the respective schemes. However, the actual expenditure incurred is as per the incentives disbursed to the companies which could achieve the investment and sales turnover threshold defined under the respective schemes and subsequent filing of the claim by the companies. The IT hardware manufacturing ecosystem in India is still at a nascent stage and has been scaling up gradually. Further, two major players under the scheme had opted for a two-year gestation period. They have commenced their production in FY 2025-26 and will file incentive claims going forward.

17. While submitting the details of schemes which have been prioritized during the year 2026-27 and the plans of the Ministry to efficiently utilize funds and achieve the intended objectives/targets, the Ministry in its written reply has submitted that:

“The schemes that have been prioritized during 2026-27 are Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India, R&D in Information Technology, Electronics & CCBT, Cyber Security Projects and National Knowledge Network 2.0.”

18. The Ministry gave the following details of financial targets proposed and target/allocation set at BE during 2026-27 for each scheme and the reasons for difference between the proposed and Budget Estimates:

“It is stated that the allocations in BE is decided by Ministry of Finance considering the past trend of expenditure, committed liability, approved project outlay, etc. However, additional allocations would be requested at Revised Estimates/Supplementary stage.

*(Rupees in crore)*

Schemes/ Programmes	Annual Budget 2026-27		
	Proposed (1)	BE (2)	Difference (1) – (2)
Capacity Building & Skill Development Scheme	600.00	600.00	0.00
Electronic Governance (incl. EAP)	750.00	628.18	121.82
National Knowledge Network (NKN)	700.00	665.00	35.00
Promotion of Electronics & IT Hardware Mfg	860.00	720.00	140.00
Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)	1400.00	1527.04	(-) 127.04
Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductor and Display Ecosystem in India	13000.00	8000.00	5000.00
Promotion of IT & ITeS Industry	120.00	90.00	30.00
R&D in IT/Electronics/CCBT	2000.00	1248.33	873.49
Cyber Security Projects	1500.00	790.00	710.00
Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme	100.00	1500.00	(-) 1400.00
IndiaAI Mission	2000.00	1000.00	1000.00
India Semiconductor Mission	0.00	1000.00	1000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23030.00</b>	<b>17768.55</b>	<b>5261.45</b>

19. Regarding the system of monitoring and control over the performance of Schemes, the Ministry has stated that:

“The system of monitoring and control over the performance of scheme is as given below:

(i) Schemes are formulated as per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance

- (ii) MeitY supports funding relating to R&D, Infrastructure creation and HRD projects/schemes.
- (iii) The projects are evaluated for funding by Working Groups/Committees duly constituted with the approval of competent authority for the purpose.
- (iv) The Working Group recommends the mode of funding on the merit of proposal based upon the R&D needs of the industry, domestic and export markets and related socio-economic issues, etc. The Working Group also identifies thrust areas to invite evolving proposals etc. For Transfer of Technology, MeitY follows the DST guidelines which have been duly approved by the Ministry of Finance.
- (v) Periodic review/monitoring of various projects is undertaken by Project Review Steering Group (PRSG) constituted for reviewing respective projects.”

## **VII. National Informatics Centre (NIC)**

National Informatics Centre (NIC), an attached office of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has been the Government of India's technology partner since its establishment in 1976. Expanding to state and district levels in 1988, NIC provides technology-driven solutions across key areas including core ICT infrastructure, whole of Government oriented digital services, cyber and information security, sectoral applications, and propagates the adoption of emerging technologies.

The Mandate of NIC:-

- Technology partner of the Government
- Design and develop IT systems for the Government
- Provide ICT infrastructure to the Government
- Explore & advise on the use of emerging technologies

NIC has been playing an instrumental role in executing key IT projects, in close collaboration with the Government, making the last-mile delivery of government services to the citizens a reality, through a variety of digital solutions such as eShram, eWay Bill, National Scholarship Portal, Jeevan Pramaan Portal, e-Challan, PM Kisan etc.

NIC has been continuously working towards a meaningful use of emerging technologies in governance across all levels of government. NIC has setup Centres of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics and Block Chain. Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence empowers trust in Citizen -Government Interaction via mediums like Text Analytics, Chatbots, Voice Recognition. Computer Vision, Image Analytics, Video Analytics, Text Mining, Language Modelling and Summarization.

Centres of Excellence for application security and Computer Emergency Response Team (NIC-CERT) have been established to continually protect over 10,000 NIC managed government ICT applications, portals and websites and other government cyber infrastructure from cyber-attacks/threats. Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain Technology has been set up with an objective to promote rapid adoption & on-boarding of Blockchain based solutions for use of latest technological tools and frameworks in different dimensions of governance.

20. The details of Proposed, BE, RE and actual expenditure in respect of National Informatics Centre (NIC) from 2023-24 onwards is as under:

**(Rs. in crore)**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actuals</b>
<b>2023-24</b>	1600.00	1527.26	1552.00	1406.19
<b>2024-25</b>	1840.00	1748.64	1538.34	1379.60
<b>2025-26</b>	1900.00	1600.00	1550.00	1047.09*
<b>2026-27</b>	2000.00	1595.00	----	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

21. Furnishing the reasons for any increase/decrease in allocation from BE to RE during 2025-26 along with the actual status of utilization of funds made and the reasons for increase/decrease in utilization, the Ministry informed the Committee that:

“During 2025-26 the RE allocation of NIC was decreased by Rs.50.00 Crore. The decrease was mainly due to less requirement of funds Procurement of ICT Equipment under capital section in view of the policy decision taken to hire Managed Service Providers (MSP) for taking care of security operations Data Centres of NIC across the country.”

22. When the Committee inquired about the steps taken by the Ministry to bridge the substantial gap between the amount proposed and allocation made at BE during 2026-27, the following was stated:

“There is a gap of about Rs.405 crore between the amount proposed for NIC and the amount actually allocated to NIC in BE 2026-27. However, based on the expenditure to be incurred by NIC during the first two quarter of FY 2026-27, MoF would be requested, if required, for additional allocation of funds for NIC at RE stage.”

## VIII. Regulatory Authorities

### (i) Standard Testing and Quality Certification (STQC)

Standardization Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate, an attached office of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, provides quality assurance services in the area of Electronics and IT through countrywide network of laboratories and centres. The services include Testing, Calibration, IT & e-governance quality assurance, Training and Certification having National / International accreditation and recognitions in the area of testing and calibration.

Besides a network of 4 ERTLs and 11 ETDCs which are primarily engaged in testing and calibration services, STQC has specialized institutions such as Indian Institute of Quality Management (IIQM) for quality related training programmes and Centre for Reliability (CFR) for reliability related services.

The Vision and objective of STQC are:

- Support Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology's initiatives in the key areas like e-Government, e-Industry, e-Innovation / R&D , e-Learning, e-Security, e-Inclusion, Internet Governance through Quality & Security evaluations of IT systems and other projects of national importance and formulation of e-Governance Standards/Guidelines/Frameworks in emerging areas/technologies.
- Become a key player in national measurement assurance system by providing test & calibration facilities in emerging technologies and provide accredited certification services for processes and products for global compliance
- Capacity building in the area of services being offered and continuously improving efficiency and effectiveness of STQC processes.

23. The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last four years and the BE for the current year are as under:-

	(Rs. in crore)				
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	157.00	139.50	220.00	200.00	230.00
<b>BE</b>	120.00	135.50	175.00	170.00	169.00
<b>RE</b>	120.00	157.00	150.00	160.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	110.33	136.38	120.66	80.78*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	92	87	80	50	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

24. While furnishing reasons for increase/decrease in allocation from BE to RE during 2025-26 and the actual status of utilization of funds made along with the reasons for increase/decrease in utilization, the reply given by the Ministry was as under:

“The decrease in allocation from BE to RE 2025–26 amounting to Rs.10 crore is primarily due to lower utilization of funds under the “Salaries” component, resulting from a significant number of retirements in STQC. Additionally, reduced expenditure is anticipated under the “Machinery & Equipment” budget head. Furthermore, no requirement of funds for the Noida building is envisaged during this period.”

25. Regarding physical targets at BE and RE stage and achievements made during the year 2025-26 and any shortfall in achieving the targets during 2025-26 along with the reasons thereof, the Ministry has stated as under:

“STQC has been allocated funds amounting to Rs. 160.00 Cr during the FY 2025-26 with major component i.e. Rs. 49.75 Cr under the object head “Salary” for meeting the establishment related expenditure pertaining to various Labs/Centre of STQC Dte. Additionally, Budget was also allocated to Land and Building as well as capital equipment head.

#### **Target and Achievement for Land and Building**

- Rs.7.25 Crore was allocated under Land & Building Head. Out of which Letter of Authorization has been issued to CPWD for executing renovation works of Lab/Centres namely ETDC Hyderabad, ERTL(East), ETDC Solan, ERTL(South) and ETDC Mohali.
- Renovation of Guest Houses at ETDC Hyderabad and ETDC Guwahati has been carried out in FY 2025-26.
- In addition, Approval of competent authority is being sought to pay an amount of Rs. 35.92 Cr (approx.) to Tamil Nadu State Govt towards transfer of land & building of ETDC Chennai.

#### **Target and Achievement for Capital Equipment and ICT**

- Under ICT Head, an amount of Rs.1.11 Crore has been paid to CDAC Noida for implementation of Lab Automation portal namely Satya portal in FY 2025-26. Satya Portal has been launched to deliver the services of STQC in online mode.

- Further, procurement of Rack Mount Servers of amount Rs. 1.94 Cr (approx.) is at final stage and purchase order will be placed after obtaining the financial approval from competent authority. In addition to this, procurement of Renewal of 15 Licenses of already purchased Application Security Testing Tool (App Scan) for all STQC labs are under progress.

- Under the “Machinery & Equipment budget Head, out of the allocation of Rs.18.00 crores, Test equipment of worth Rs 3.56 Cr. have been procured, Environment chambers for an amount Rs. 5.12 Cr have been procured and installations at various STQC locations are under progress. In addition, Purchase order for an amount Rs. 2.95 Cr. have been placed towards procurements of Dust Chambers and Water Testing (ingress protection) Facility. Also, Procurement activities of amount Rs. 6.37 Crores are in final stage of procurement and Purchase orders will be placed after getting approval of competent authority.

- Make in India (MII) Exemption has been granted by competent authority for the procurement of HALT Chamber at CFR Chennai.

In addition to above, STQC has completed recruitment process of 102 post of Scientific Assistants and result has been published.”

**26.** On achievements of the targets set during the year 2026-27 and the measures being taken to achieve the set targets, the Ministry has provided the following details:

“The details are as under:

- The construction of the STQC building in Sector 62, Noida, is underway and is expected to be completed by Dec 2026.

- STQC has planned to modernize various labs/centres in phased manner from FY 2026-27 onwards and the in-principle approval of competent authority has been obtained.

- A detailed study on the construction of a lab building for ETDC Jaipur and staff quarters for ERTL (West), Mumbai, is also planned.

- STQC is planning to reconstruct ETDC Chennai Building after taking over the land from Tamil Nadu government.

- Renovation of Guest House at ETDC Bangalore will be carried out in this FY.
- STQC aims to procure capital equipment worth Rs. 28 Cr (Approx.) covering the test and calibration equipment pertaining to testing facility of smart energy meter, Climatic and durability equipment, Safety, EMI/EMC, Reliability and HPCC etc.
- In response to the PPO/CRO mandate for STQC, a Network Scanning tool will be procured for 15 centres at a cost of Rs. 3.5 Crore. Additionally, the second phase of lab process automation will be completed using the remaining ICT budget allocation.
- Further, requirement of Software Tools and Setup for Information Technology related Testing and Emerging Technologies to the tune of Rs.56.6 Crore has been envisaged which will be undertaken on a phase-to-phase basis as per budget allocation in the respective head.”

27. While outlining the details of major impediments being encountered and the measures taken to address them, the Ministry submitted as under:

“Major impediment being faced by STQC is shortfall in the Manpower due to retirements. STQC has taken steps to recruit the fresh Manpower of 102 Scientific Assistants and expected to join the STQC before the end of FY 2025-26. Majority of Test/Calibration facilities as well as the IT Test Tools is not available in “Make in India” Scheme. STQC has been consolidating a list of Test/Calibration facilities and IT tools for getting “Make in India” exemption from the competent authority.”

**(ii) Cyber Security (CERT-In)**

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India has been designated under Section 70B of the Information Technology Act, 2000 to serve as the national agency in the area of cyber security incident response. CERT-In serves as the national agency for incident response to perform various functions in the area of cyber security like collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents, issue of guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents, forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents, emergency measures for handling cyber

security incidents, coordination of cyber security incidents, etc. It is also the authorised agency to monitor and collect traffic data or information through any computer resource to enhance cyber security and for identification, analysis and prevention of intrusion or spread of computer contaminant in the Country.

According to the Ministry, to deal with the complex, sophisticated cyber-attacks, sharing and exchange of threat intelligence, CERT-In partners with overseas counterpart agencies as well as cyber security organizations from industry that are willing to work together and share information in a timely manner for preventing cyber attacks as well as collaborating for providing swift response to cyber security incidents.

28. The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last four years and the BE for the current year are as under:

	(Rs. in crore)				
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	500.00	250.00	250.00	270.00	330.00
<b>BE</b>	215.00	225.00	238.00	255.00	269.00
<b>RE</b>	180.00	208.00	241.00	277.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	176.50	249.28	254.88	229.64*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	98	120	106	83	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

29. Regarding reasons for increase/decrease in allocation from BE to RE during 2025-26 and the actual status of utilization of funds made along with the reasons for variation in utilization, the submission of the Ministry was as under:

“Allocation of funds at the BE stage in FY 2025-26 was Rs 255.00 Cr which was revised to Rs 277.00 Cr at RE stage. Increase of funds demand at RE stage was due to the additional funds requirement under the Budget Head of “Information Computer, Telecommunication Equipment (ICT)”. The additional funds allocated at RE Stages will be utilized in full.”

30. When the Committee wanted to know the major impediments that were being encountered and the measures taken by the Ministry to address them in respect of this Scheme, the Ministry submitted:

“The major impediments being encountered and measures to address them as well as the achievements made are briefed below:

Impediments

CERT-In is in urgent need of additional manpower to keep up with the rapid increase in the incidents and cyber security issues, urgent nature of incident

response activities including onsite response, to sustain key current as well as planned new activities / projects and to address cyber security issues pertaining to emerging technologies and areas.

To address the challenge, CERT-In has moved a proposal for creation of additional posts at various levels. The proposal has been examined at Department of Expenditure and 192 S&T (technical) and 22 non S&T posts sanctioned at various levels. Actions are being taken for recruitment of sanctioned posts.”

**(iii) Data Protection Board (DPB)**

The Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 has been enacted on 11th August 2023. This Act provides for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognizes both the rights of the individuals to protect their personal data and the need to process such personal data for lawful purposes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Chapter V of Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 provides for setting up of a Data Protection Board (DPB). The budget provision is towards meeting the salary and other establishment expenses of DPB.

Under Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, the Data Protection Board of India is an independent, quasi-judicial body tasked with ensuring compliance by data fiduciaries and data processors with obligations relating to lawful processing, consent, data security, and breach reporting. It has the power to inquire into complaints, impose monetary penalties for non-compliance, issue directions, and facilitate resolution of grievances. The Board also plays a key role in protecting the rights of data principals while promoting responsible data governance in India’s digital ecosystem.

**31.** The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last two years and the BE for the current year are as under:

	<b>(Rs. in crore)</b>		
	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
<b>Proposed</b>	2.00	5.00	20.00
<b>BE</b>	2.00	5.00	10.00
<b>RE</b>	2.00	2.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	0.00	0.00*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	0	0	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

**32.** Furnishing reasons for any variation in allocation from BE to RE during 2025-26 and the actual status of utilization of funds made along with the reasons for increase/decrease in utilization, the Ministry submitted:

“In the absence of notified DPDP Rules, the RE was proposed to reduce to Rs. 2 Cr from Rs. 5 Cr of BE. Now, the DPDP Rules, 2025 has been notified on 13th November 2025. No expenditure has been incurred at present.”

**33.** About the details of targets set during 2026-27 and the measures being taken to achieve under DPB, the following has been submitted:

“For 2026–27, the Government has set targets focused on full operational stabilization and effective enforcement of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 through the Data Protection Board of India. Key targets include strengthening the Board’s institutional capacity, improving compliance levels among data fiduciaries, enhancing public awareness of data principal rights, and establishing a robust, technology-enabled adjudication and grievance redressal system.

To achieve these targets, measures being undertaken include augmentation of human resources and technical expertise, continued development and upgradation of digital platforms for case management and breach reporting, and issuance of guidelines, standard operating procedures, and clarifications to promote consistent compliance. Capacity-building programmes and stakeholder consultations are being conducted to improve understanding of obligations under the Act. The Ministry is also ensuring adequate budgetary support, close monitoring of performance indicators, and coordination with other Ministries and regulators to enable the Data Protection Board of India to function effectively and meet its objectives during 2026–27.”

**34.** Regarding the impediments being encountered in the operationalization of DPB and ways developed to overcome them, the Ministry stated:

“The implementation and operationalization of the Data Protection Board of India under the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 has faced certain initial impediments. These include the nascent nature of the regulatory framework, the need for capacity building and skilled manpower in data protection and digital technologies, development of supporting rules, procedures, and digital infrastructure, and the challenge of creating awareness and compliance readiness among stakeholders, especially smaller entities and start-ups.

To address these challenges, the Government has taken several measures such as phased operationalisation of the DPDP Act, formulation and notification of

supporting rules and standard operating procedures, recruitment and training of personnel with legal and technical expertise, and development of IT systems for complaint handling and adjudication. Continuous engagement is being undertaken with industry, experts, and other regulators to ensure clarity, consistency, and smooth enforcement. Efforts are also ongoing to strengthen coordination with ministries and agencies for effective implementation.

At present, the Data Protection Board is being constituted, with necessary institutional arrangements being put in place.

## **IX. Digital India Programme and Other Schemes**

### **A. Capacity Building and Skill Development Scheme**

Capacity Building and Skill Development Scheme is to build a robust talent pipeline and institutional ecosystem that supports high-tech industry growth, deep-tech innovation, and inclusive digital empowerment. The strategic objectives include: bridging advanced skill gaps with structured training/ experiential learning initiatives; indigenous localization of contents; democratizing access via digital platforms and regional hubs; promoting inclusive outreach to underserved groups and geographies; aligning curricula with industry needs and embedding competency-based assessments; fostering sustained multi-stakeholder partnerships; and strengthening research and innovation capacity through centres of excellence and incubation support, thereby significantly expanding skilled manpower and widening digital access. This is proposed to be achieved through skilling and capacity building initiatives to cover 1.5 crore learners by 2030, with a targeted focus on ensuring 25% representation from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, including synergy and alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).

The scheme is implemented through a coordinated, multi-tier approach to ensure scale, quality, and last mile reach. Policy alignment is ensured through collaboration with MSDE, MoE, and NITI Aayog, with regulatory oversight by NCVET, UGC, and AICTE. IITs, NITs, and IISc anchor advanced training, applied research, curriculum development, and Centres of Excellence, supported by industry and academic content partners. Programme delivery is led by the Ministry's autonomous bodies, NIELIT, C-DAC, ERNET India, Digital India Corporation, STQC and NIC for digital enablement and quality assurance. Industry relevance is ensured through partnerships with Sector Skill Councils, particularly IT/ITeS SSC NASSCOM, Electronics Sector Skill Councils of India

(ESSCI), to align standards, curricula, and employability outcomes and at the ground level is carried out in collaboration with State Governments and their respective skill development agencies, Village level entrepreneurship of CSCs, training partners, academic institutions, and local stakeholders, enabling inclusive outreach across Tier-II and Tier-III cities and underserved regions.

The objective of the program is to ensure the availability of trained human resources for the manufacturing & service sectors of Electronics and IT industry. Initiatives include identifying gaps emerging from the formal sector and planning programmes in non-formal and formal sectors for meeting these gaps. This includes Skill Development in the domain of Electronics & IT and related areas. Major projects being implemented under this Scheme include: Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics & IT, Future Skills PRIME (Programme for Re-skilling/ Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability), Special Manpower Development Programme for Chips to System Design (SMDP-C2SD), Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project Phase-II, IT for Masses Programme and Fee reimbursement under Special component plan for SC and Tribal Area Sub-Plan, etc.

**35.** The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last three years and the BE for the current year in respect of Capacity Building and Skill Development Scheme as furnished by the Ministry are as under:

	(Rs. in crore)			
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	827.34	560.00	625.00	600.00
<b>BE</b>	537.50	537.50	575.00	600.00
<b>RE</b>	454.01	537.50	500.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	434.16	476.19	497.16*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	96.00	89.00	99.00	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

**36.** The Ministry has provided the proposed Capacity Building and Skill Development targets to be achieved in next 5 years since 2026 (sub-scheme wise) in the table as given below:

SI No.	Project/ Scheme Name	Total Target	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
1	Manpower Development in Niche Areas	15	3	3	3	3	3
2	Professional Development- Skilling/ Reskilling/ Upskilling incl. Faculty Training	25	3	4	5	6	7
3	Skill Development for Employability	50	6	10	11	11	12
4	Empowerment- Women/ SC/ST/EWS/OBC/PwDs/ Senior Citizens	25	3	5	5	6	6

5	Livelihood Enhancement & Awareness Programmes	35	3	6	8	8	10
6	Strengthening of ICT Infrastructure for Capacity Building	25 NIELIT/ Others Centre	5 Centres	5 Centres	5 Centres	5 Centres	5 Centres
7	Internet Governance and Digital Inclusion	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total Proposed Target</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>

37. Among many of the initiatives taken under the scheme, the Ministry has submitted the details of Skill Development of Unemployed Youth of Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar for Enhancing Employability and Enabling Entrepreneurship towards Sustainable Development of States, as under:

“The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has approved a project entitled “Skill Development of Unemployed Youth of Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar for Enhancing Employability and Enabling Entrepreneurship towards Sustainable Development of States.” The primary objective of the project is to implement a free Skill Development Programme for 50,040 youth (12,510 in each of the four states—Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar) over a period of three years. The programme aims to enhance employability and promote entrepreneurship among the youth by providing training in various NSQF-aligned courses under the IT and Electronics domain. Out of the total beneficiary target of approximately 50,040, around 35,028 candidates (8,757 per state) will belong to the SC/ST categories, while 15,012 candidates (3,753 per state) will be from the General/EWS categories.”

#### **B. Electronic Governance (incl. EAP)**

The National e-Governance Plan was approved by the Cabinet in May 2006 with a vision to provide public services to the common man in his locality at affordable costs. In 2015, Government has launched the Digital India programme with the vision of transforming India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge-based economy, by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. Further, the Union Cabinet on August 2016 approved the expansion of the Digital India programme. Electronic Governance is a sub-scheme under the Digital India Programme which aims at enabling digital infrastructure, digital services, and digital empowerment. The broad objective of the Electronics Governance scheme is to provide digital infrastructure for delivery of e-services. E-Governance scheme consists of

various projects related to development of Digital Infrastructures such as State Wide Area Network(SWAN), National data Centre(NDC) & State Data Centre (SDC), MeghRaj-Govt. of India Cloud initiative, e-mail solution of Govt. of India, PRAGATI VC, Digital Platforms such as MyGov, Digital Locker, e-Sign, National Data Highway, Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG), myScheme, Open Government data, e-Taal, delivery of services through Common Service Centre (CSC), web, Kiosks & Mobile platform, PRAYAS, Vikaspedia, Gov.in Secure Intranet Platform, and Capacity Building programme etc. Each project has its own initiation date and deadline for completion. e-Governance is considered essential for development of digital infrastructure & e-Governance initiatives of national importance and to bring technology parity at national level and to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through digital infrastructure, digital services, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide.

The objective of e-Governance, in broader terms, is to deliver all Government services electronically to the citizens in his/her locality through integrated and inter-operable systems via multiple modes, while ensuring efficiency, transparency and reliability of such services at affordable costs. The World Bank supported India: e-Delivery of Public Services project is an externally aided project under Electronic Governance scheme. It visualises Digital Governance as a way ahead and Digital Public Infrastructure as the cornerstone for a robust, dynamic and secure digital ecosystem.

38. With respect to Electronic Governance (incl. EAP), the details of budgetary allocation and utilization during the last four years and the BE for the current year as provided by the Ministry are as under:

	(Rs. in crore)				
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	575.00	559.72	700.00	567.52	750.00
<b>BE</b>	525.00	555.74	650.00	617.00	628.18
<b>RE</b>	525.00	588.00	656.00	617.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	216.32	571.64	669.73	530.05*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	41.00	97.00	102.00	86.00	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

39. On being asked about the major impediments being encountered in the implementation of this scheme and measures taken to address them, the Ministry replied:

“The challenges faced for implementation of Electronics Governance Scheme are digital literacy, digital connectivity, accessibility to services, ease in availing the digital services and the awareness/ readiness amongst the departments to adopt the services. Besides these challenges, the digital divide gap is also attributed to

the fact that many citizens belonging to the weaker sections are deprived of availing the digital services.

Government has already taken necessary measures to tackle these challenges through implementing “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)” to usher in digital literacy in rural India and BharatNet project with the aim to connect all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country with 100 Mbps connectivity. Government is also providing the services in assisted mode through Common Services Centres (CSCs) and taking steps through various other channels also. Moreover, Government is striving hard to create awareness amongst citizens through various modes including social media platforms, as well as the departments for onboarding and consumption of the digital services.”

**40.** Submitting the key findings of Evaluation Study of this scheme, the Ministry has highlighted the following issues and challenges in it:

“The core issue or challenge is closing the inclusivity, interoperability, and resilience gaps that persist beneath headline adoption, specifically uneven standards conformance, variable assisted access, cyber/ privacy risks and incomplete transparency that together constrain consistent user experience and trust across jurisdiction. However, some issues that can be further resolved include:

- **Interoperability variance:** The partial adoption of IndEA/MDDS/GIGW and divergent state systems create integration burdens, limiting seamless end-to-end journeys and consistent experiences across departments and tiers.
- **Cyber/ privacy risk:** Expanding data flows enlarge the attack surface and heighten consent- management complexity, requiring stronger privacy-by-design, continuous monitoring, and incident- response readiness to sustain trust.
- **Capacity and conformance:** Variable SeMT strength, conformance testing and SLA- backed orchestration slow onboarding and reuse; gaps in vernacular parity and offline-first design particularly affect last- mile reliability.
- **Inclusivity gaps:** Connectivity constrains, affordability barriers, uneven WCAG/IS 17802 compliance, and inconsistent assisted channels result in vulnerable groups not benefitting equally across languages and geographies.

The intervention has catalysed higher-order effects normalizing digital verification, single- window access, and auditable workflows, yet full institutionalisation of IndEA/GIGW/MDDS conformance and cross- jurisdiction data exchange remains

a work in progress, impeding seamless end-to-end journeys and whole-of-government orchestration. Inclusivity has advanced through multilingual features, CSC reach, and accessibility-by-design initiatives; nonetheless, connectivity disparities, digital literacy gaps, and inconsistent assisted service models mean disadvantaged groups, including persons with disabilities and rural users, have not benefited equally in all contexts.

Transformative change is visible where platforms and standards have shifted behaviours toward self-service, verifiable digital records, and mobile-first use. However, enduring shifts in gender norms, frontline service protocols, and universal design compliance require stronger mandates, audits, and capacity building to lock in equitable, long-term behavioural adoption.

Emerging risks include heightened exposure to cyber threats and complex consent management as data flows expand, along with the dangers of fragmentation when state systems diverge from national frameworks or lack SLA-backed API governance. Scalability remains strong for cloud-enabled platforms and API exchanges; however, replicability across state ecosystems is limited by uneven standards alignment, variable institutional capacity, and gaps in vernacular and offline-first design.”

### **C. National Knowledge Network (NKN)**

In March 2010 the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI) approved the establishment of the National Knowledge Network (NKN) at an outlay of Rs.5990 crore, implemented by NIC over a period of 10 years. The duration of NKN project has been extended till 31st March 2026 with enhanced outlay of Rs 7188 cr. It may be noted that NKN is being extended for one year at a time since last 6 years. The current phase of NKN would end on 31st March,2026. It is expected that NKN Phase-II (which is under the process of approval) would take over the created network from 1st April 2026.

NKN carries the digital-traffic of National/state Data Centres (NDCs/SDCs), State-Wide Area Networks (SWANs) and provides connectivity to various Digital India initiatives, and carry digital-traffic of various G2G (Government to Government) and G2C (Government to Citizen) services, District Connectivity, etc. NKN also inter-connect all knowledge institutions across the Country through high-speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. A high-speed data communication network has been established to interconnect Institution of higher learning, and research. Eventually, NKN fulfils the needs of the government network

[National Government Network (NGN)], and the Research & Education Network (REN) both.

As on Current Status of NKN (as on December, 2025):

- 1,869 links to Institutions (covering 1822 institutions) have been commissioned and made operational under NKN. (this includes 371 links to institutions migrated from NMEICT [National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology a project of Ministry of Education] to NKN). It covers almost all the major IITs, Central Universities, State Universities, NITs, IIITs, IIMs, hospitals in tertiary care such as AIIMS, PGIs, State Government hospitals, national laboratories under DAE & DST, DRDO, MHRD, ICAR, ICMR and a host of other government institutions / departments.
- 681 NKN links have been connected to NIC District Centers (covering 560 districts) across India. This facilitates the Digital Governance data-traffic to ride over NKN.

41. The budgetary allocation and utilization during the last four years and the BE for the current year towards National Knowledge Network are as under:

	<b>(Rs. in crore)</b>				
	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
<b>Proposed</b>	650.00	495.52	700.00	496.00	700.00
<b>BE</b>	650.00	352.00	240.26	0.25	665.00
<b>RE</b>	485.25	582.00	490.26	665.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	323.26	581.94	490.24	594.90*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	67.00	100.00	100.00	89.00	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

42. The Ministry in its written reply has submitted the details of physical targets at BE and RE stage and achievements made during 2025-26 along with shortfall in achieving the targets during 2025-26 as under:

“The network which includes: (i) Core links, (ii) 1869 links to Institutions, (iii) 681 links to NIC-districts etc. would be kept operational from the funds Rs 665 cr (that have been allocated for NKN for FY 2025-26 at RE stage). Further, about Rs 217 cr (out of Rs. 665 cr allocated), would be utilised for procurement of network equipment which have already been obsoleted. After, FY 2025-26 the remaining life of the network equipment would be utilised for NKN Phase-II which is under process of approval.”

43. Further, the Ministry has informed the Committee regarding targets set under this scheme during 2026-27 and the measures being taken to achieve them as stated below:

“The allocated funds for FY 2026-27 at BE level for NKN Phase-II (which is under process of approval) is Rs. 665.00 crore (against the demand of Rs 992 cr). In NKN Phase-II, which is the continuation of the current phase of NKN project running since 2010 which would be upgraded in resonance with the contemporary needs. The targets for FY 2026-27 are as follows:

1. Creation/ Upgradation of core backbone links on 10-100 Gbps, (No. of existing core links upgraded): 50
2. Creation/ Upgradation of districts links on 100Mbps-1 Gbps (Number of new NIC District center connectivity with NKN): 20”

#### **D. Promotion of IT & ITeS Industries**

According to the Ministry, the Government has been taking several initiatives for promotion of electronics manufacturing in the Country to provide an enabling environment for the industry to compete globally. Electronics manufacturing is one of the important pillars of the Digital India and Make in India Programmes. Its target to achieve net zero imports is a striking demonstration of intent. The National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019) envisions positioning India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) by encouraging and driving capabilities in the Country for developing core components, including chipsets and creating an enabling environment for the industry to compete globally. To further develop electronics manufacturing in the Country, a number of projects have been initiated by the Government which include: Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS), Electronic Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) & EMC 2.0, Electronics Development Fund (EDF), Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS), etc.

The main objective of the scheme is to promote the growth of a sustainable IT and software industry by leveraging India’s strengths in the IT sector and its vibrant startup ecosystem, while extending IT activities to Tier-II and Tier-III cities. The scheme also aims to encourage innovation and the development of advanced technologies, and to enhance India’s global presence through market outreach programmes. It is a continuing scheme with an ongoing and perpetual nature. For its continuation during the XVI Finance Commission period, an external review was conducted, which recommended continuation based on its positive impact in recent years and its importance in sustaining India’s global competitiveness in the IT/ITES sector.

44. Towards Promotion of IT & ITeS Industries Scheme, the budgetary allocation and utilization during the last four years and BE for the current year are as under:

(Rs. in crore)					
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	246.00	285.08	150.00	130.00	120.00
<b>BE</b>	100.00	150.00	130.00	130.00	90.00
<b>RE</b>	89.25	120.00	128.50	90.62	----
<b>Actual</b>	66.08	115.76	59.31	85.02*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	74.00	96.00	46.00	94.00	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

45. On being asked to furnish the reasons, for variation in fund allocation from BE to RE during 2025-26 and the actual status of utilization of funds made along with the reasons for increase/decrease in utilization, the Ministry has submitted that:

“The reasons for variation from BE of Rs.130 cr to RE of Rs. 90.62 cr were that several project proposals such as Acceleration of Deep-Tech startups in collaboration with academia, promoting IT startups and SME at international events, enhancing technology and AI transformation to regional IT & services hubs, establish a Tech Hub at Madhya Pradesh to foster innovation through startups focusing on deep-tech and emerging tech sectors, various Centers of Entrepreneurship (CoEs) even though had recommendation of Division Working Group but are at for consideration at different stages of approval. Some of these required extensive stakeholder consultations and incorporation of fresh ideas to leverage emerging technologies, budget alignments with different divisions, which required considerable time in finalization. This resulted in lesser expenditure leading to variation in fund allocation from Rs.130 cr to Rs. 90.62 cr. The actual utilisation of funds as on 6 January 2026 was ₹85.02 crore.”

46. While submitting reply on the targets set under the scheme during 2026-27 and measures taken to meet them, the Ministry has stated that:

“During 2026–27, the scheme aims to support 200 technology startups through initiatives such as domain-specific Centres of Entrepreneurship (CoEs), iTamil Nadu Technology Hub (iTNT HUB), Centres of Excellence with Startup Innovation Zones (CoE-SIZ), and the Digital Startup Accelerator Programme for the North East (Digi-SAPNE). To achieve these targets, the scheme is strengthening incubation, mentoring, funding access, and market linkages, while expanding IT and startup support beyond metropolitan cities. New initiatives and proposals—including acceleration of Deep-Tech startups in collaboration with academia, enhancing technology and knowledge to strengthen regional IT & services hubs,

establishment of a Tech Hub at Madhya Pradesh to foster innovation through startups focusing on deep-tech and emerging tech sectors, expansion of Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, establishment of new CoEs in emerging technology domains, Super Innovation Clusters, India Pavilion, Global Capability Centres(GCCs) are being pursued to enhance innovation, global outreach, and India’s competitiveness in the IT/ITeS sector.”

**E. R&D in IT/Electronics/CCBT**

Proliferation and absorption of emerging technology by supporting R&D is one of the important objectives of this program apart from creating essential R&D infrastructure and scientific & technical human capital. The outcome of these endeavours is expected to increase the start-up base in the Country, enhance the IP portfolio, development of indigenous technologies and know-how and its transfer to Indian companies for manufacturing. The focused R&D being supported by the Department are classified as R&D in Electronics (Electronics System Design & Application, Microelectronics, Nanoelectronics, Electronic Component & Material Technology, Medical Electronics & Health Informatics, Innovation Promotion & start-ups, National Language Technology Mission (NLTM) under TDIL, High Performance Computing (HPC) including National Supercomputing Mission); R&D in IT (Blockchain, Quantum Technologies, Operating System, Database System, Artificial Intelligence, Perception Engineering and Data Analytics); R&D in CC&BT (Next Generation Communication Technologies/Standardization/Systems/Networks – 5G & beyond, Open Source Software Stack for Next Gen Communication, Quantum Communication, Cognitive and Software Defined Radio and Networks, Cloud Communications, IoT, Big Data Analytics, Broadband Wireless Technology and Strategic Electronics); and Security Specific R&D.

This scheme is an ongoing scheme up to 31st March, 2026. The continuation of the scheme for XVI Finance Cycle is presently under process for its appraisal by EFC.

47. The budgetary allocation and utilization with respect to R&D in IT/Electronics/CCBT scheme during the last four years and BE for the current year is as follows:

	(Rs. in crore)				
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	1422.20	967.22	1200.00	1400.00	2000.00
<b>BE</b>	598.17	600.00	1148.25	1249.75	1248.33
<b>RE</b>	365.00	1000.00	1183.56	1249.75	----
<b>Actual</b>	275.07	877.09	1175.51	861.90*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	75.00	88.00	99.00	69.00	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

**48.** When asked about the steps being taken to ensure adequate availability of funds during 2026-27 in case of substantial gap between the amount proposed and allocation made at BE during 2026-27, the Ministry has made the following submissions:

“There is a substantial gap of about Rs.752 crore between the amount proposed (Rs.2000 cr) and allocation made in BE 2026-27 (Rs.1248.33 cr). However, the allocated amount is sufficient for spending towards the ongoing projects and taking up new projects during first two-three quarters of FY 2026-27. The requirement of funds would be reviewed at RE stage and if required, MoF will be requested for allocation of additional funds in RE 2026-27.”

**49.** Enumerating the impediments under this Scheme and measures being taken thereon, the Ministry replied has submitted the following:

“Major impediment under this scheme is lack of upfront support from the industry for sharing of domain knowledge, testing and commercialization of the developed technologies. To address this challenge, priority is being given to projects with industry support and their involvement from the beginning. This will build confidence among the industry on indigenous technologies so developed.

In addition, lack of Indian/International standards and MeitY's contribution in development of standards for the technologies developed in close consultation with BIS is also a barrier.”

#### **F. IndiaAI Mission**

The Government of India approved the IndiaAI Mission on 7th March 2024, a comprehensive national level program to democratize and catalyze the AI innovation ecosystem in the Country and ensure the global competitiveness of AI startups and researchers of India. The Mission aims to establish a robust AI ecosystem through strategic programs and partnerships across the public and private sectors. By democratizing computing access, improving data quality, developing indigenous AI capabilities, attracting top AI talent, enabling industry collaboration, providing startup risk capital, ensuring socially impactful AI projects and bolstering ethical AI, it will drive responsible, inclusive growth of AI ecosystem of India. The Mission would encompass 7 following components: IndiaAI Compute Capacity, IndiaAI Innovation Centre, IndiaAI Datasets Platform, IndiaAI Application Development Initiative, IndiaAI FutureSkills, IndiaAI Startup Financing, and Safe and Trusted AI.

50. Among the objectives and targets of this Mission as enumerated by the Ministry are:

### **“OBJECTIVES**

- Establish an integrated national AI mission to strengthen the domestic AI ecosystem and drive inclusion, innovation, and economic growth through industry–academia partnerships.
- Democratize access to state-of-the-art compute infrastructure to support AI research and innovation across the value chain.
- Enhance access, quality, and usability of public sector datasets by making them AI-ready to enable data-driven governance and AI-based innovation.
- Strengthen data management capacity in government ministries/departments and create a Unified Datasets Platform to integrate siloed data, ensure AI readiness, and improve dataset discoverability.
- Create an AI marketplace as a one-stop platform for datasets, compute resources, AI models, and AI-as-a-service offerings.
- Develop and deploy indigenous foundational AI models and applications tailored to India’s unique needs and challenges.
- Advance applied AI R&D through coordinated efforts to develop, deploy, and scale foundational models and responsible AI innovation, positioning India as a global AI leader.
- Ensure seamless access to risk capital for India’s expanding AI startup ecosystem.
- Expand scholarships for UG, PG, and PhD programs to reduce barriers to higher education in AI.
- Develop indigenous ethical AI tools based on Indian datasets and use cases.

### **TARGETS**

- Establishment of the IndiaAI compute capacity of 10,000 or more GPUs and the AI Marketplace. Augmenting the existing GPU availability through CSPs with sovereign AI Compute infrastructure of 3000 GPUs.
- Developing foundational models with capacity of 100 billion+ parameters trained on datasets covering major Indian languages for priority sectors like

healthcare, agriculture, governance etc.

- Undertaking development of at least 15-20 LMMs/LLMs/SLMs under the IndiaAI Foundation Models Pillar.
- Establishing AI Curation Units (ACU) in 50-line ministries/departments and establishing the IndiaAI Datasets Platform.
- Undertaking 25 applied AI projects to address public sector problem statements.
- Supporting 8,000 B.Tech, 5,000 M.Tech and 500 PhD/Post Doc students in AI and setting up 570 IndiaAI Labs.
- Financing 1,050 AI and deep tech startups at various stages of the Startup lifecycle.
- Establishing the AI Safety Institute and developing in India Safe and Trusted AI tools, checklists, etc.

**Date of Approval of IndiaAI Mission – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Duration – 5 years (with a funding of 8 years to the IndiaAI FutureSkills pillar)**

**51.** The budgetary allocation and utilization with respect to IndiaAI Mission in during the last two years and BE for the current year are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)			
	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	551.75	2000.00	2000.00
<b>BE</b>	551.75	2000.00	1000.00
<b>RE</b>	173.00	800.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	19.24	256.86*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	11	32	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

**52.** While replying regarding the targets set and measures taken to achieve them under this Mission, the Ministry submitted as under:

“The targets of IndiaAI Mission for 2025-26 are as under:

IndiaAI Compute Capacity	Establishment of Compute Infrastructure of 10,000 GPUs Development of an AI marketplace Setting up a private cloud
IndiaAI Foundation Model	4 hackathons Data Gathering and Data annotation for 12 languages Enhance the L1 Foundational models parameters Enhance the sectoral model
IndiaAI Dataset Platform	AI Curation Units established in 30 Ministries/ Departments Curated datasets in 30 ministries Platform and Product Enhancement

	Data annotation and anonymization guidelines Cloud infrastructure Enhancement Platform and Product Enhancement Onboarding of datasets
IndiaAI Application Development Initiative	No. of Applied AI Projects: 5 Enhancement of platform
IndiaAI FutureSkills	400 Full-time UG Students 500 Full-time PG Students 100 Full-time Ph.D. Students 120 IndiaAI Labs
IndiaAI Startup Financing	Deep tech Startup Supported: 100 Industry-led Projects: 05
Safe & Trusted AI	Framework for Ethical AI Eight Indigenous Tools for Ethical AI

Many of the above-mentioned targets have already been achieved, and sustained efforts are underway to meet the remaining targets within the designated timelines.”

**53.** The representative of the Ministry during the deliberation before the Committee, regarding major takeaways from IndiaAI Impact Summit, 2026 held from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February in New Delhi, submitted as under:

“I wanted to highlight two things. One is that the knowledge repository is something that we are building. The Hon’ble Member had suggested that there was so much knowledge generated. We are already building that repository. The ‘YouTube’ videos of all those meetings are available. They are being curated and made accessible. We are going to undertake a similar exercise – a complete directory of all the exhibitors who participated in the Expo.

Their details will be available for anybody who wants to go back and revisit a particular aspect. We are also curating and compiling them to ensure that there is significant follow-up and that we achieve real outcomes in the AI space. So, let me assure the Committee that this will be our highest priority.

The overall intent was to ensure that startups and others got adequate space, and that was provided virtually at nominal or zero rates. We provided startups complete access so that they would face fewer issues. The Government entities and educational institutions like IITs were also given space at subsidized prices. We will certainly learn from this experience to ensure that curation is done more carefully in terms of who gets how much space and why.

It has been announced that for attracting global business and investment, tax holiday till 2047 would be provided to any foreign company that provides cloud services to customers globally by using data centre services from India.”

## **X. Assistance to Autonomous and Other Bodies**

### **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) was established to develop the policy, procedure and systems for issuing Aadhaar numbers to individuals and perform its authentication. Accordingly, it has been UIDAI's endeavour to develop policy, procedure and systems that would enable individuals to get Aadhaar numbers issued and to perform authentication to establish their identity. It is to provide for, as good governance, efficient, transparent and targeted delivery of subsidies, benefits and services, the expenditure for which is incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India/ Consolidated Fund of States. Hence, it aims at providing 'good governance', through the fair and just execution of welfare services of the Government. It provides a unique identity to each resident, towards ease of living.

UIDAI was set up through a government notification dated 28th January 2009 as an attached office of the Planning Commission, to lay down plans and policies to implement the UID Scheme and to own, operate, update and maintain the UID database. The first Aadhaar number was issued on 29th September 2010.

Following the enactment and coming into force of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act"), UIDAI was established through a notification dated 12th July 2016 of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) as a statutory authority under the Aadhaar Act.

Enrolment under Aadhaar is an ongoing activity. As on 31st December 2025, a total of 143.50 crore Aadhaar have been generated against the projected population (2025) of about 143.50 crore. However, the actual number of Aadhaar holders is lesser due to deaths. Hence, the concept of "Live Aadhaar" has been introduced to estimate the number of persons holding Aadhaar who are alive. It is estimated that the number of 'Live Aadhaar' stands at 134.45 crore.

UIDAI provides online authentication using demographic and biometric data. The UID (Aadhaar) number, which uniquely identifies Aadhaar number holder, gives individuals the means to clearly establish their identity to public and/or private agencies across the country. Aadhaar online authentication allows verification of Aadhaar number holder and serves as proof of identity. UIDAI formally launched fingerprint based online authentication on 7th February 2012, iris-based authentication, OTP authentication & e-KYC services on 24th May 2013 and Face Authentication on 15th October 2021.

Cumulatively, 16,570.25 crore authentication transactions have been done till 31st November, 2025, and 2681.91 crore e-KYC transactions.

54. The fund allocation for this scheme, since 2022-23, has been made by the Ministry as under:

	(Rs. in crore)				
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
<b>Proposed</b>	1400.00	1800.00	1029.00	700.00	1200.00
<b>BE</b>	1110.00	940.00	600.00	600.00	572.41
<b>RE</b>	1110.00	800.00	600.00	605.00	----
<b>Actual</b>	1219.65	800.00	600.00	440.00*	----
<b>% w.r.t. RE</b>	110	100	100	73	----

\*As on 31.12.2025

55. When asked by the Committee to tell about the targets set during 2026-27 and the measures being taken to achieve them, the Ministry submitted:

“The following actions have been identified and are being acted upon:

- a) **Aim to enable all State Cooperative Banks and District Cooperative Banks to leverage Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) and Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB):** - UIDAI has issued new policy for onboarding of State Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and District Cooperative Banks (DCBs) for digital enablement to leverage Aadhaar based authentication services such as biometric authentication e-KYC, AePS and APB for customer onboarding and delivery of financial service through secure, efficient, and transparent means, especially to rural and underserved populated areas.
- b) **To achieve 70% e-KYC biometric authentication transaction:** - UIDAI aims to enhance e-KYC transaction / biometric authentication as it provides secure mode of authentication eradicating any possibility of impersonation, ghosting or any fraudulent activity, liveness check, and higher success rate of authentication.
- c) **Signing of Supplementary Agreement with all entities for cleansing of Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR) data:** - UIDAI for cleaning the database of CIDR, is entering into Supplementary Agreement with requesting entity (REs). For the same UIDAI has also issued API Specification document to all REs for sharing the Aadhaar seeded information of deceased individuals. Now, UIDAI is interacting with all requesting entities to enter into Supplementary Agreement and start sharing relevant data about the deceased with UIDAI.

- d) **Onboarding of non-government entities under Aadhaar eco-system:** - UIDAI aims to cover and onboard the entities other than government under Section 4(4)(b)(ii) of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits, and Services) Act, 2016. For the same, physical and VC meetings have been conducted with entities.
- e) **Introduction of L1 IRIS registered devices:** - To boost the security of iris-based authentication, UIDAI is moving from existing L0 IRIS registered devices to L1 IRIS registered devices, marking a big shift toward hardware-based protection. This setup uses Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) technology to offer strong defense against advanced cyber threats and spoofing attempts. The migration will roll out gradually, ensuring services stay up and running while significantly robust the authentication system's accuracy and reliability.
- f) **100% migration of Level 1 registered fingerprint device:** - UIDAI has rolled out L1 registered fingerprint authentication devices with embedded Pre-certified hardware (PCH). UIDAI targeted full implementation of L1 Registered fingerprint devices in the field.
- g) **Increase DBT schemes:** - To onboard more DBT and Good Governance Schemes under Central and State Government based ministries, departments and other entities.
- h) **Target to reduce Mandatory Biometric Update pendency** (of around 17 cr) on attaining the age of 5 and 15 years in a phased manner over a period of next 5 years.
- i) **Measures Taken:** Technological integration through UDISE+ application has given visibility to schools of MBU status of children. Targeted MBU camps are conducted to reduce the pendency. Charges for MBU have been waived off for the age group of 7-15 years for a period of one-year w.e.f. 1.10.2025.
- j) **Shift towards online verification of all documents** submitted for enrolment/Update of Aadhaar from data of document issuing authority.
- k) **Steps taken:** Coordination with various departments of Union and State governments for issuing documents including legacy documents in digital format with QR code and making them available through API Setu.

l) **Deactivation of Aadhaar of deceased persons**

Steps taken:

- Coordination with various departments of Union and State governments to obtain death records containing Aadhaar for further deactivation after due validation.
- Feature to report death of a person for further deactivation of Aadhaar after due validation made available on myAadhaar portal.

**56.** When the Committee wanted to know about the steps being taken by the Ministry to ensure availability of funds in case of substantial gap between the amount proposed and the allocation of funds made at BE during 2026-27, the Ministry submitted:-

“MeitY has allocated ₹ 572.41 crore in B.E 2026-27 for UIDAI against the total requirement of ₹ 2272.10 crore projected by UIDAI. Although the allocation of ₹ 572.41 crore for the F.Y. 2026-27 will not be sufficient to meet the requirements of UIDAI, yet UIDAI will meet the excess expenditure from its internal resources.”

**57.** Regarding major impediments being encountered by UIDAI and the measures taken to address them, the Ministry submitted as under:-

“Major impediments being encountered are: -

- **Online Verification:** Legacy documents not digitised, some States/ UTs are still issuing non-digital documents or issued documents which do not contain QR code or are not available on API Setu.

**Measures taken:** DO letter from CEO, UIDAI to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs to direct respective departments to issue documents (including legacy documents) in digitised, QR coded format and make them available on API Setu.

Impediments in deactivation of Aadhaar of deceased persons: -

- **API integration with Registrar General of India (RGI):** Under progress

**Measures taken:** Continuous follow-up with RGI is being done to expedite the said API integration.

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## PART-II

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

#### BUDGET OVERVIEW AND DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2026-27)

1. The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, under Demand No.27, has been allocated a total outlay of Rs. 21,632.96 crore for the Financial Year (FY) 2026-27 against the Proposed Budgetary Support of Rs. 28,169.00 crore. According to the data provided by the Ministry, for the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26, the Proposed Budgetary Support was Rs. 28,223.78 crore, which came down to Rs. 26,026.25 crore (which is 92.21% of the Proposed Budgetary Support) at the Budget Estimate (BE) stage, which further came down to Rs. 20,232.95 crore (which is 71.68% of the Proposed Budgetary Support). A general trend of reduction of funds by the Ministry of Finance to that proposed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is seen. Further, the Ministry has been able to utilize Rs. 13,048.70 crore (as on 31.12.2025), which is only 64.49% of the Revised Estimate (RE) i.e., Rs. 20,232.95 crore. It is also noteworthy to see that in FY 2025-26, against the Proposed Budgetary Support of Rs. 28,223.78 crore, BE was Rs. 26,026.25 which is Rs. 2197.53 crores and 7.78% lesser in contrast to the Proposed Budgetary Support. If the same data is compared for the FY 2026-27, almost same amount of funds i.e., Rs. 28,169.00 crore was proposed but at BE stage, it remained only Rs. 21,632.96 crore, which is Rs. 4393.29 crore and 16.88% lesser in comparison to the BE of the Financial Year 2025-26. It is a matter of concern that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has not been able to convince the Ministry of Finance about getting the requisite amount of funds at BE stage. The Committee are of the opinion that more funds allotted to the Ministry may help promote Digital Governance for empowering citizens, promoting the inclusive and sustainable growth of the Electronics, IT & ITeS industries, enhancing India's role in Internet Governance, adopting a multipronged approach that includes development of human resources, promoting R&D and innovation, enhancing efficiency through digital services and ensuring a secure cyber space. This will ensure that the programmes are prioritized and the targets set against them are achieved in time.

2. While examining the funds allocation, it is seen that there has been a decrease in allocation of about Rs. 5736.79 crore under Revenue Section in RE

against BE in FY 2005-26. According to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, this budgetary cut has been done by Ministry of Finance due to less expenditure incurred during the first two quarters of FY 2025-26. Further, expenditure has been less under the Schemes namely; Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India, Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) and India AI Mission. The Committee are of the opinion that increase in allocation in the Revenue section will help the Ministry to ably cater to Training Expenses, procurement of Digital Equipment, Repair and Maintenance and Scholarships etc. Given the fact that Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India, Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) and IndiaAI Mission are important for providing financial support to companies investing in semiconductors, display manufacturing and design ecosystem for India's growing presence in the global electronics value chains; to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in Mobile Phones & Specified Electronic Components and IT Hardware; and to establish a robust AI ecosystem through strategic programmes and partnerships across the public and private sectors respectively, the Committee may be apprised of the reasons for low spending in them. The Committee also desire the Ministry to provide a comparative analysis of targets set and reduced against Training Expenses, Digital Equipment, Repair, Maintenance and Scholarships during the last 5 Financial Years with respect to funds in Revenue Section.

3. Allocation in Capital Section was decreased by Rs. 56.51 crore in RE corresponding to BE in FY 2025-26, due to less expenditure incurred during the first two quarters and this was attributed to non-finalization of some tenders for technical reasons. The Ministry has stated that the capital provision in BE 2026-27 has been decreased by Rs. 44.33 crore from that was provided in BE 2025-26. This variation is due to less requirement of capital funds by NIC in view of engagement of Managed Service Providers (MSPs) for carrying out the security operations of the Data Centres of NIC across the Country and anticipated less Information and Communications Technology (ICT) expenses.

The Committee are of the considered opinion that increase in allocation in the Capital section will help the Ministry in establishing Machinery and Equipment, ICT equipment, Building and structures and Infrastructure Assets etc. The Committee would like the Ministry to provide a comparative analysis on how MSPs

are saving and raising funds for Capital formation. The Ministry may also furnish details about the achievement of targets during the Financial Year 2025-26 and the overall impact it will have in the ensuing Financial Year 2026-27 owing to reduction in funds.

4. According to the Ministry, it monitors/reviews implementation status of schemes/projects from time to time so as to ensure smooth implementation of various projects and make it mandatory that the grants released by MeitY are being utilized in a proper and productive manner. It further stated that Secretary and Financial Adviser (MeitY) review the Utilization Certificate (UC) status from time to time in order to adhere to GFR provisions and ensure that Grants are released in installments for implementation of various projects, taking into consideration the unspent balances with them. MeitY also stated that Project Review and Steering Committee (PRSC) monitors and evaluates the project progress and utilization of the funds as per approval and recommend for release of financial assistance. The Committee note that the total Unspent Balance with implementing Agencies as on 03.02.2026 is Rs. 3002.70 crore for Financial Year 2025-26. Keeping in view the above, the Committee emphasize that the Ministry take all the necessary steps for obtaining UCs with respect to utilization of money spent and record of unspent money lying with Implementing Agencies i.e. Rs. 15.40 crore.

5. The Committee note that the percentage of actual expenditure with respect to RE in respect of IEBR has been declining from 118.37% in FY 2022-23 to 106.76% during FY 2023-24 to 93.51% in FY 2024-25 to 76% in FY 2025-26. The Ministry apprised the Committee that the IEBR target in RE 2025-26 has been reduced by Rs. 269.97 crore, especially due to delay in sanction of grants in respect of some ongoing projects. The IEBR target in BE 2026-27 is about Rs.48 crore less than that of in BE 2025-26. The reduction is due to closure of some projects being implemented by the Autonomous Societies. Taking cognizance of the facts that the IEBR plays a crucial role in supporting Infrastructure development and public sector growth, the Committee would like to know the reason for delay in sanctioning of grants to certain ongoing projects.

6. The Committee while analyzing the Demands for Grants note that percentage increase in various Programme Heads and Major Heads over the last 5 years shows that Semi Conductor laboratory (SCL), Promotion of IT & ITeS

Industries, India AI Mission and Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) have shown massive pruning of funds in FY 2026-27 in comparison to FY 2025-26 i.e., 16%, 31%, 50% and 83% respectively. All of these programmes are vital for enabling the continuous development of the electronics and IT industry. In case of Major Heads, barring Major Head 3451 - Secretariat Economic Services , all Major Heads Major i.e., Head 2552 – North Eastern Areas, Major Head 2852 – Industries, Major Head 3451– Secretariat Economic Services, Major Head 3454 – Census Surveys and Statistics, Major Head 4859 – Capital Outlay on Telecommunication and Electronic Industries, Major Head 5475 – Capital Outlay on Other General Economic Services have shown extreme trimming of funds. The Committee call upon the Ministry to seek more funds in future in the Major Heads to prioritize Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India, R&D in Information Technology, Electronics & CCBT, Cyber Security Projects and National Knowledge Network 2.0. The Committee urge the Ministry to look into the areas of concern and take necessary measures at the earliest so as to meet the targets set in the aforementioned Schemes and Programmes.

7. The Committee are enlightened that there has been a reduction of Rs. 5000 crore in Modified Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Ecosystem in India Scheme in BE 2026-27 as compared to proposed BE 2026-27. The Ministry has submitted that Schemes are formulated as per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance and the Working Group constituted for the projects' evaluation for funding, recommends the mode of funding on the merit of proposal based upon the R&D needs of the industry, domestic and export markets and related socio-economic issues, etc. In light of these, the Committee call upon the Ministry to streamline the R&D needs of the industry so as to get more funds. Further, since MeitY has constituted a Project review Steering Group for reviewing of respective projects, the Committee may be provided with the details and outcome of it.

#### **NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE (NIC)**

8. Financial Allocation to NIC since FY 2023-24 till FY 2026-27 shows that there has been steady increase in the proposed amount *i.e.*, in FY 2023-24 (Rs. 1600.00 crore), FY 2024-25 (Rs. 1840.00 crore), FY 2025-26 (Rs. 190.00 crore) and 2026-27 (Rs. 2000.00 crore), but at the same time there has not been proportionate growth at BE in all these years. The Committee find that the Ministry could expend only

90% of RE in FY 2023-24, 89.68% in FY 2024-25 and 67.55% till 31.12.2025. The Committee apprehend that the Ministry may not be able to utilize the entire amount allocated for the FY 2025-26 by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2026. Further, the Committee have been given to understand that under NIC, Centres of Excellence for application security and Computer Emergency Response Team (NIC-CERT) have been established to continually protect over 10,000 NIC managed government ICT applications, portals and websites and other government cyber infrastructure from cyber-attacks/threats. The Committee also note that during FY 2025-26, the RE allocation of NIC was decreased by Rs. 50.00 Crore and in FY 2026-27, there is a gap of about Rs. 405 crore between the amount proposed for NIC and the amount actually allocated. Since the mandate of NIC is to be Technology partner of the Government; Design and develop IT systems for the Government; Provide ICT infrastructure to the Government; and Explore & advise on the use of emerging technologies, the Committee call upon the Ministry to ensure that the shortage of funds in this scheme will not in any way affect the technical progress or the last-mile delivery of government services to the citizens. The Committee are of the concerted opinion that with the emerging technologies like Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Block chain technologies to enable uniformity in technical, design, and navigation standards for all the government sites, the Ministry need to give their best performance. The Committee while recommend for last mile connectivity, they desire the Ministry to ensure digital services with local languages support so that Digital Literacy is improved in the country. The Committee urge upon the Ministry to utilize funds allocated at the BE level effectively and efficiently so that requisite funds are allotted at RE stage.

### **STANDARDISATION, TESTING & QUALITY CERTIFICATION (STQC)**

9. Scrutiny of allotted funds has revealed that the Ministry has not been able to completely utilize the funds allocated to them during the FY's 2022-23 to 2024-25 and only 50% of RE has been spent during the FY 2025-26 till 31.12.2025. The Committee recommend the Ministry to take steps to effectively utilize the remaining funds in the last quarter. As seen, the proposed amount is increasing in FY 2026-27 with regard to FY 2025-26 but for the respective FY's, the BE is diminishing. The Committee were apprised that there is no requirement of funds for the STQC, NOIDA building and the construction of the STQC building in Sector 62, Noida, is underway and is expected to be completed by Dec 2026. However, as per the Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations of the

Committee contained in their Ninth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2025-26)', the Ministry in its reply had submitted that reconstruction work of STQC, NOIDA building was in progress through CPWD and it was anticipated to be completed in the FY 2025-26. The Committee may be apprised of the status of completion of construction of STQC, NOIDA building. The Committee are further informed that the Approval of competent authority is being sought to pay an amount of Rs. 35.92 Cr (approx.) to Tamil Nadu State Government towards transfer of land & building of ETDC, Chennai and procurement of Renewal of 15 Licenses of already purchased Application Security Testing Tool (App Scan) for all STQC labs are under progress. The Committee had also been apprised that STQC has been consolidating a list of Test/Calibration facilities and IT tools for getting "Make in India" exemption from the competent authority. In the context of the above-quoted information, the Ministry may submit the present status of land & building of ETDC Chennai and procurement of Renewal of 15 Licenses. The current position of list of Test/Calibration facilities and IT tools for getting "Make in India" exemption under STQC may also be furnished. The Committee would nevertheless urge the Ministry to take earnest steps and strive hard to complete all the pending projects in time so that the exercise initiated by STQC to contribute to strengthening the security, reliability, and trustworthiness of key Government digital platforms, can be strengthened.

#### **CYBER SECURITY (CERT-In)**

10. The Committee note that since FY 2023-24, BE for CERT-In has constantly increased from Rs. 225.00 crore in FY 2023-24 to Rs. 269.00 crore in FY 2026-27 and the trend of actual expenditure incurred by the Ministry in respect of RE is from FY 2023-24 (120%) to FY 2025-26 (83% as on 31.12.2025). The Committee are of the view that the CERT-In which have to deal with the complex and sophisticated cyber-attacks, sharing and exchange of threat intelligence, partners with overseas counterpart agencies as well as cyber security organizations from industry that are willing to work together and share information in a timely manner for preventing cyber attacks as well as collaborating for providing swift response to cyber security incidents, and therefore, the expenditure may commensurate to achieve these objectives. The Committee were apprised that CERT-In is facing a deficit of personnel to keep up with the rapid increase in the incidents and cyber security issues, urgent nature of incident response activities including onsite response, to sustain key current as well as planned new activities / projects and to

address cyber security issues pertaining to emerging technologies and areas. The Committee are also informed that CERT-In has moved a proposal for creation of additional posts at various levels and action is being taken in this regard. The Committee desire to be apprised of the outcome of the action taken in this regard.

#### **DATA PROTECTION BOARD (DPB)**

11. A detailed examination of the Scheme has revealed that Data Protection Board (DPB) plays a significant role in protecting the rights of data principals while promoting responsible data governance in India's digital ecosystem. The Ministry has submitted that for 2026–27, the Government has set targets focused on full operational stabilization and effective enforcement of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 through the Data Protection Board of India and the key targets include strengthening the Board's institutional capacity, improving compliance levels among data fiduciaries, enhancing public awareness of data principal rights, and establishing a robust, technology-enabled adjudication and grievance redressal system. Further, the Ministry has also put forth the hurdles faced in institutionalization of DPB which are in nascent nature of the regulatory framework, the need for capacity building and skilled manpower in data protection and digital technologies, development of supporting rules, procedures, and digital infrastructure, and the challenge of creating awareness and compliance readiness among stakeholders, especially smaller entities and start-ups. In order to address these challenges, the Ministry has taken several measures such as phased operationalization of the DPDP Act, formulation and notification of supporting rules and standard operating procedures, recruitment and training of personnel with legal and technical expertise, and development of IT systems for complaint handling and adjudication. The Committee find that during the FY 2024-25, the amount sanctioned from proposed stage to BE stage remained same and no fund was spent. In the FY 2025-26, the proposed amount rose to Rs. 5.00 crore from 2.00 crore in 2024-25, which remained same at BE stage, but at the RE stage, it again came down to 2.00 crore, similar to RE of FY 2024-25. The Committee were given to understand that in the absence of notified DPDP Rules, the RE was proposed to reduce to Rs. 2.00 Cr from Rs. 5.00 Cr of BE. However, the DPDP Rules, 2025 has been notified on 13th November 2025 and the Committee view that the creation of this entity will be accelerated. Further, with an amount of Rs. 2.00 crore in FY 2025-26 and Rs. 10.00 crore in FY 2026-27 at BE stage, the Ministry is to create standard operating procedures, recruit and train personnel with legal and

technical expertise, and develop IT systems for complaint handling and adjudication. The Committee recommend that the Ministry may strengthen DPB which would play a pivotal role towards Digital Safety of 1.4 Billion people of India, where it is a digital challenge for the masses at large. DPB has a huge responsibility of ensuring the safety and security of personal data and mitigate the crimes like digital arrest, cyber frauds and digital scams. The Committee would like to prevail on the Ministry to allocate sufficient funds to DPB and apprise the Committee about the expenditure and progress made under DPB after the notification of the DPDP Rules, 2025 on 13th November 2025.

### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

12. The Ministry proposed Rs. 600.00 crore during FY 2026-27 and were able to get the same amount of funds at BE stage. However in FY 2025-26, nearly same amount of funds were sought at proposal stage but it was reduced to Rs. 575.00 crore and Rs. 500.00 crore at BE and RE stage respectively. The Ministry would have to look for innovative approach since the objective of this scheme is to build a robust talent pipeline and institutional ecosystem that supports high-tech industry growth, deep-tech innovation, and inclusive digital empowerment and the Ministry will have to look forward for getting necessary funds. According to the Ministry, 5 Centres have been earmarked from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31 against the project of strengthening of ICT Infrastructure for capacity building, but against the project of Internet Governance and Digital Inclusion, no targets has been fixed by the Ministry for the next five FY's starting from the current FY 2026-27. The Ministry has also stated that it has approved a project entitled "Skill Development of Unemployed Youth of Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar for Enhancing Employability and Enabling Entrepreneurship towards Sustainable Development of States." The primary objective of the project is to implement a free Skill Development Programme for 50,040 youth (12,510 in each of the four states— Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Bihar) over a period of three years. The programme aims to enhance employability and promote entrepreneurship among the youth by providing training in various NSQF-aligned courses under the IT and Electronics domain. Out of the total beneficiary target of approximately 50,040, around 35,028 candidates (8,757 per state) will belong to the SC/ST categories, while 15,012 candidates (3,753 per state) will be from the General/EWS categories. The Committee would like to know whether the 5 centres chosen under NIELET would be in Tier-II/III cities and reasons for not setting any targets with respect to

**Internet Governance and Digital Inclusion for the next 5 years from FY 2026-27. The Committee understand that skilling of women, SC/ST, PwDs, senior citizens and Aspirational Districts through vernacular contents and culturally relevant model is a necessity of time and hence, they feel that it must be prioritized by the Ministry. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should expand rural and tribal digital literacy, integrate digital payments and establish permanent capacity in upgraded institutions to continue programme delivery beyond Central funding cycles. The Committee understand that this scheme is essential for achieving India's \$ 1 trillion digital economy goal by 2030 and the Broader Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and hence advise the Ministry to take all necessary measures to achieve the targets well within time and within the allocated funds, so that India has a strong and dedicated Digitally Trained Workforce ready to meet the future challenges.**

### **ELECTRONIC GOVERNANCE (incl. EAP)**

**13. According to the Ministry, for this Scheme, in FY 2025-26, the proposed amount was Rs. 567.52 crore and it was increased to Rs. 617.00 crore at BE stage. But in FY 2026-27, the proposed amount of funds was Rs. 750.00 crore and it was decreased to Rs. 628.18 crore. The Ministry has submitted that the challenges faced for implementation of Electronics Governance Scheme are digital literacy, digital connectivity, accessibility to services, ease in availing the digital services and the awareness/ readiness amongst the Departments to adopt the services. Besides these challenges, the digital divide gap is also attributed to the fact that many citizens belonging to the weaker sections lag behind in availing these digital services due to various reasons. The Ministry has also submitted that the Government have already taken necessary measures to tackle these challenges through implementing "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India and BharatNet project with the aim to connect all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the Country with 100 Mbps connectivity. Government is also providing the services in assisted mode through Common Services Centres (CSCs) and taking steps through various other channels also. Further, it has also been submitted that the Government is striving hard to create awareness amongst citizens through various modes including social media platforms, as well as through the Departments for on boarding and consumption of the digital services. The Committee note that, among other hurdles being faced in this scheme, are Interoperability variance, Cyber/Privacy risk, Capacity and conformance and inclusivity gaps. The Ministry has submitted**

that these could be resolved. The Committee call upon the Ministry to take necessary action at the earliest and apprise the Committee about the same.

### **NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (NKN)**

14. The Ministry has significantly increased the proposed Budget for National Knowledge Network (NKN) to Rs. 700 crore during FY 2026-27 in comparison to Rs. 496.00 crore in FY 2025-26 and it has been able to get Rs. 665.00 crore at BE stage for FY 2026-27. According to submission of the Ministry, the network includes: (i) Core links, (ii) 1869 links to Institutions, (iii) 681 links to NIC-districts etc. would be kept operational by using the funds amounting to Rs 665.00 crore (that have been allocated for NKN for FY 2025-26 at RE stage). Further, about Rs 217 cr (out of Rs. 665 crore allocated), would be utilised for procurement of network equipment which are already obsolete. After, FY 2025-26, the remaining life of the network equipment would be utilised for NKN Phase-II which is under process of approval. Further, as per the Ministry, the targets under NKN for FY 2026-27 are Creation/ Upgradation of core backbone links on 10-100 Gbps and districts links on 100Mbps-1 Gbps to furtherance the Digital Connectivity with greater speed. The Committee are given to understand that NKN has been instrumental in bridging the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to knowledge and technology across urban, semi-urban, and rural areas and it has strengthened telemedicine services, enabling real-time collaboration among healthcare professionals, hospitals, and research institutions. In the light of the submissions made by the Ministry, the Committee note that many educational and research institutions in rural and isolated locations still lack high-speed internet access to close the digital divide and guarantee that professionals, researchers, and students in small towns and villages have the same opportunities as those in larger cities, NKN must broaden its reach. As with connectivity to the remote Islands, more Points of Presence (PoPs) should be set up in isolated places, and satellite-based connectivity solutions should be used to guarantee access in geographically difficult areas. The Committee would like to caution that NKN must have foolproof Security Framework to safeguard research data and government communications. The Committee also want the Ministry to make use of augmented Budgetary Provision to NKN for establishing a blockchain-based National Digital Research Repository (NDRR) that will enable secure, cross-institutional knowledge sharing, evidencing greater collaboration and innovation among Indian researchers. As on December 2025, 1869 links to Institutions

(covering 1822 institutions) have been commissioned and made operational (this includes 371 links to institutions under 'National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT)', which have been migrated to NKN). It was further informed by the Ministry that 681 NKN links have also been connected to NIC District Centres across India. Taking note of the submissions of the Ministry that no major hurdle is being encountered in the implementation of the Scheme, the Committee expect the Ministry to implement this Scheme in the right earnest and achieve the intended objectives.

### **PROMOTION OF IT & ITeS INDUSTRIES**

15. The Committee find that the proposed funds for this scheme has was Rs. 246.00 crore in FY 2022-23, Rs. 285.08 crore in FY 2023-24, Rs. 150.00 crore in FY 2024-25 and Rs. 130.00 crore in FY 2025-26 to Rs. 120.00 crore in FY 2026-27. The BE was Rs. 100.00 crore 4 years back and as on date, it has decreased to Rs. 90.00 crore. In each of these financial years the Ministry has reduced funds at RE stage than what was proposed. Utilization of funds has revealed that 74% of RE was used in FY 2022-23, 46% in FY 2024-25 and 94% in FY 2025-26 upto 31.12.2025. The reasons that were attributed for variation from BE of Rs.130 crore to RE of Rs. 90.62 crore were that though several project proposals had recommendation of Division Working Group, these are at consideration at different stages of approval. The Ministry has also stated that during 2026–27, the scheme aims to support 200 technology startups through initiatives such as domain-specific Centres of Entrepreneurship (CoEs), iTamil Nadu Technology Hub (iTNT HUB), Centres of Excellence with Startup Innovation Zones (CoE-SIZ), and the Digital Startup Accelerator Programme for the North East (Digi-SAPNE). The Committee may be apprised about the current status of different proposals held up at approval stage and steps taken by the Ministry for their early clearance. The Committee would like to impress upon the Ministry that it should take necessary steps in underperforming states and North Eastern states to strengthen the states' IT ecosystem and promote future growth. The Committee observe that the IT/ITeS sector currently contributes handsomely to India's GDP and it is among the Country's largest employment generators. Since India's status as a reliable and competitive global IT hub is cemented by the Promotion of IT/ITeS Industries Scheme, which guarantees consistent employment creation, export growth, regional inclusion, and technological leadership, the Committee recommend that the Ministry utilize the amount dedicated to it in the most prudent manner to achieve the targets set under it within the set timelines.

## **R & D IN IT/ELECTRONICS/CCBT**

16. The Committee note that there has been noticeable upgradation of fund allocation at proposed and BE stage in FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26. It is noted that the Ministry was able to utilize the funds optimally for FY 2024-25. As per the submission of the Ministry, want of upfront support from the industry for sharing domain knowledge, testing and commercialization of the developed technologies are key issues in this scheme. In order to address this challenge, the Ministry has given priority to projects with industry support and their involvement from the beginning. In addition, lack of Indian/International standards and MeitY's contribution in development of standards for the technologies developed in close consultation with BIS is also a barrier. The Committee strongly feel that to maintain a conducive and efficient environment for R&D, the Scheme must continuously evolve taking care of innovative policies, revision in R&D guidelines to make it stake holder friendly including new funding mechanisms, robust Intellectual Property frameworks, and support for ethical, socially responsive research. The Committee urge the Ministry to regularly monitor the progress and streamline the release of funds. The Committee desire the Ministry to take a comprehensive approach to policy and audit to ensure proper resource utilization and continuous optimization of research and development outcomes and apprise the Committee in this regard.

## **IndiaAI MISSION**

17. The Committee note that in the IndiaAI Mission, the Ministry has been able to spend only 32% of the fund allocated at RE stage in FY 2025-26 as on 31.12.2025 and the amount sanctioned at BE stage in FY 2026-27 is only half the amount proposed by the MeitY. The Ministry has submitted that the target is to establish IndiaAI compute capacity of 10,000 or more GPUs and the AI Marketplace; augmentation of the existing GPU availability through CSPs with sovereign AI Compute infrastructure of 3000 GPUs; development of foundational models with capacity of 100 billion+ parameters trained on datasets covering major Indian languages for priority sectors like healthcare, agriculture, governance etc.; and establishment of AI Curation Units (ACU) in 50-line ministries/departments and the IndiaAI Datasets Platform. As per the Budget Announcements 2026-27, a provision has been made for a tax holiday till 2047 to any foreign company that provides cloud services to customers globally by using data centre services from India. The Committee find that India's Gross

Expenditure on R&D as a percentage of GDP stands at an abysmal 0.64%, as per the Economic Survey presented in the Parliament, which is below the global average. The research funding is broadly for premier Institutions particularly IITs and national laboratories. The full impact of the new initiatives, such as Anusandhan National Research Foundation and the Research development and Innovation Fund, is yet to be seen. That the AI landscape is fast changing and witnessing real-life impact of AI, the Committee have concerns about the development of a sovereign AI model. Though, the Mission is aggressively working to establish a GPU cluster, the high cost of hardware, global supply chain delays, huge power and water consumption by data centres and a tax holiday are significant issues. The Committee call upon the Ministry to have consultations with all stakeholders, academicians, environmentalists and budget experts to mitigate any possible adversities.

#### **UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA (UIDAI)**

18. With respect to Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), the Ministry proposed Rs. 1200 crore in BE and has been allocated Rs. 572.41 crore. The Ministry has submitted that though the allocation of ₹ 572.41 crore for the FY 2026-27 will not be sufficient to meet the requirements of UIDAI, yet UIDAI plan to meet the excess expenditure from its internal resources. Online verification of legal documents and API integration with Registrar General of India (RGI) remains the topmost challenges for UIDAI. The Ministry, among the targets enumerated, has stated that achieving 70% e-KYC biometric authentication transaction and increasing DBT schemes is in priority. Given the fact that the current allocation of ₹ 572.41 crore is insufficient to meet operational needs, it is imperative that UIDAI must prioritize critical projects within the limited budget. Since online verification of legal documents takes priority along with API integration with the Registrar General of India (RGI), these require immediate funding. It is imperative that the Ministry ensure internal resource mobilization is strengthened to cover shortfalls. The Committee are of the opinion that efficiency audits should be conducted to identify cost-saving opportunities or a fund should be created for unforeseen expenses. The Committee feel that Public-private partnerships can help finance technology upgradation and so, DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) expansion should be aligned with authentication reliability. The Committee recommend that UIDAI

should collaborate with State Governments for shared infrastructure and Performance-based funding requests may convince the Ministry for higher allocations. The Committee further recommend that UIDAI should publish transparent reports on fund utilization and prioritize projects with high citizen impact and Cost-benefit analysis must guide every new initiative.

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New Delhi;  
13<sup>th</sup> March, 2026  
22 Phalgun, 1947 (Saka)

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY,  
Chairperson,  
Standing Committee on  
Communications and Information Technology.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2025-26)**

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE**

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The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 from 1100 hours to 1310 hours in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**Dr. Nishikant Dubey- Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

**Lok Sabha**

2. Shri Anil Baluni
3. Shri Anup Sanjay Dhotre
4. Shri S. Suponmeren Jamir
5. Shri Appalanaidu Kalisetti
6. Shri G. Kumar Naik
7. Shri Shafi Parambil
8. Ms. Kangna Ranaut
9. Shri Radheshyam Rathiya
10. Shri Arun Kumar Sagar
11. Shri Devesh Shakya

**Rajya Sabha**

12. Shri Saket Gokhale
13. Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi
14. Shri Amar Pal Maurya
15. Shri Kartikeya Sharma
16. Shri Lahar Singh Siroya

**Secretariat**

1. Shri Harish Chandra Bist - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. A. Jyothirmayi - Director
3. Shri Rajesh Mohan - Deputy Secretary

## LIST OF WITNESSES

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity)

1. Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary
2. Shri Amitesh Kumar Sinha, Additional Secretary
3. Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar, CEO, UIDAI
4. Shri Abhishek Singh, DG (NIC)
5. Shri Rajesh Singh, JS & FA

### ***(After the witnesses were called in)***

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and other officials accompanying them to the Sitting of the Committee convened to have the Oral Evidence of the representatives of the Ministry on 'Demands for Grants (2026-27)' and congratulated them for successful conduct of India AI Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi. The Chairperson, in his opening remarks, stated that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has been allocated ₹21,632.96 crore for FY 2026-27, a 17% cut from ₹26,026.25 crore in FY 2025-26. Of this, ₹21,234.15 crore is for revenue expenditure and ₹398.81 crore for capital expenditure. While allocations had steadily risen from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26, the latest Financial statement marks a sharp reduction. Notable provisions include ₹1,500 crore for the new Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme and ₹1,000 crore for India Semiconductor Mission 2.0. The allocation for CERT-In rose to 5% during FY 2026-27, as compared to BE 2025-26 and the allocation for Data Protection Board doubled. However, India AI Mission funding halved and semiconductor labs saw a 16% reduction. No funds were earmarked for Promotion of Digital Transactions during the current Financial Year. In several Schemes, there was low actual expenditure in FY 2025-26. He also sought explanations for reduced allocations and poor fund utilization, urging MeitY to strengthen financial discipline and optimize spending.

3. xxxx.....xxxx.....XXXXXX.....XXXXX.....XXXXX.....XXXX.....XXXX.....XXXX

4. Subsequently, the representatives of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), made a power point presentation which gave an overview of the Budget Allocation for the Financial Year 2026-27 which, *inter-alia*, included (i) Main objectives and Organizational Structure of the Ministry; (ii) Major Programmes and Schemes of the Ministry i.e. R&D in IT/Electronics/CC&BT, Capacity Building and Skill

Development, Electronics Governance, National Knowledge Network, Promotion of Electronics and IT Hardware Manufacturing, Promotion of IT and ITeS Industries and Cyber Security; (iii) Comparative Allocation of Schemes of MeitY from BE 2025-26 to BE 2026-27; (iv) Budget Announcements for FY 2026-27 made in respect of MeitY i.e., supporting IT sector as India's growth engine; attracting global business and investment; safe harbor of 15 percent on cost in case the company providing data centre services from India is a related entity; (vi) Steps taken by the Ministry towards Programme for Development of Semiconductors, IndiaAI Mission, Production Linked Incentive Schemes (PLI) and Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS); (vii) the milestones achieved under Digital India Bhasini which include 3.7 million monolingual datasets among others.

5. Thereafter, Members sought clarifications on various issues which, *inter-alia*, included (i) Dismal transition of Modified Programme for Semiconductors from project approval to actual disbursement; (ii) Non-operationalization of Data Protection Board; (iii) Reasons for delay of procurement of the promised 10,000 GPUs under IndiaAI Mission; (iv) Intangible increase in production or capital absorption by SCL, Mohali; (v) Failure of the Ministry to democratize the IT revolution outside major metropolitan cities; (vi) Proposal of specific weightage-based tax incentive model to replace the one produced by the Finance Act in 2016; (vii) Greater interoperability between States to have a Common Minimum Programme for NIC; and (viii) Measurable targets like re-skilling, work force transition across various projects and programmes of the Ministry.

6. The Chairperson, then, directed the representatives of MeitY that written replies to points on which information were not readily available may be furnished to the Committee within ten days. Then, he thanked the representatives of (MeitY) for deposing before the Committee.

**The witnesses then withdrew.**

7. xxxx.....xxxx.....xxxxxx.....xxxxx.....xxxxx.....xxxx.....xxxx.....xxxx

8. A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept on record.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2025-26)**

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE**

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The Committee sat on Friday, the **13<sup>th</sup> March, 2026** from 0945 hours to 1000 hours in Committee Room No. '1', Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY- Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

***Lok Sabha***

2. Dr. Rabindra Narayan Behera
3. Shri S. Supongmeren Jamir
4. Shri Appalanaidu Kalisetti
5. Dr. M.K. Vishnu Prasad
6. Ms. Kangna Ranaut
7. Shri Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy
8. Shri Arun Kumar Sagar
9. Shri Devesh Shakya

***Rajya Sabha***

10. Shri Sujeet Kumar
11. Shri Amar Pal Maurya
12. Shri S. Niranjan Reddy
13. Shri Lahar Singh Siroya

**Secretariat**

- |    |                          |   |                  |
|----|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Harish Chandra Bist | - | Joint Secretary  |
| 2. | Smt. A. Jyothirmayi      | - | Director         |
| 3. | Shri Rajesh Mohan        | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee convened to consider and adopt four draft Reports on Demands for Grants (2026-27) relating to the Ministries/Departments under the jurisdiction of the Committee.

3. XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...X
4. The Committee, then, took up the following four draft Reports for consideration and adoption:-
- (i) XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...X
  - (ii) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2026-27) relating to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
  - (iii) XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...X
  - (iv) XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...XXX...X
5. The Committee adopted the Reports without modifications and also authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Reports and present the same to the House during the current Session of Parliament.

**The Committee, then, adjourned.**

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**\*\*\*Matter not related to the Report.**