

Modi's 3 years: Government receives Rs 1.43 lakh crore of investment in electronics sector.

Narendra Modi-led NDA government has so far attracted Rs 1.43 lakh crore worth of investment in the electronics sector from multinationals as well as domestic companies, Law & IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad Tuesday said.

In 2014, when NDA government came to power, the sectoral investment was merely Rs 11,000 crore which according to the department has grown manifold due to government's ambitious programs such as Make in India.

"Rs 1.43 lakh crore of investments have been committed by companies in the electronics sector in 2017," Prasad told reporters on the occasion of completing three years in office.

The Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) Tuesday highlighted major achievement of Modi government with its flagship umbrella program Digital India that was announced on July 1, 2015.

"Digital India is creating a new paradigm of development which is transformational, inclusive and empowering," Prasad said, adding that the platform is affordable and within the reach of a common man including those belonging to a lower strata of the society.

Government expects that India's digital economy would become a \$1 trillion worth sector, which according to Prasad would be achieved within next five to six years.

The department has also roped in New York-based consultancy firm McKinsey & Company to prepare a roadmap for digital economy and is seeking advice from the national planning body, Niti Ayog.

BharatNet erstwhile National Optic Fibre Network has reached to 90,000 village blocks or gram panchayats with 2.05 lakh kilometres of fibre cable laid till date, according to him, which he said was only 358 kilometres when this government came to power in May 2014.

"We aim to connect all 2.50 lakh village panchayats by December 2018," Minister of State for Law & IT PP Chaudhary said, adding that 83 crore people living in rural India would be connected with Internet to take benefit of services such as e-health and e-education.

The government is also opening Cyber Coordination Centre by June end in addition to a separate Computer Emergency Response Team (India) CERT-In for the power sector, on the lines of a Cert-In for financial transactions.