

Fraternité

Direction générale du Trésor

# REVUE DE PRESSE SECTORIELLE NUMERIQUE UNE PUBLICATION DU SERVICE ÉCONOMIQUE REGIONAL DE NEW DELHI

### N° 17 1-31 Decembre 2021

### **G** En bref

### NUMÉRIQUE :

- La commission mixte parlementaire a rendu son rapport très attendu sur le projet de loi de protection des données personnelles, préconisant une extension aux données non personnelles et des pouvoirs étendus au gouvernement.
- Les laboratoires 5G de Capgemini à Mumbai et d'Airtel à Manesar annoncent une collaboration sur le développement de solutions 5G pour les entreprises.
- Le gouvernement indien remboursera ~150 MEUR aux banques pour le traitement des transactions numériques de faible valeur de Rupay et UPI.
- La commission de la concurrence indienne revient sur son approbation de l'investissement d'Amazon dans Future Group en 2019, estimant que des faits ont été cachés.
- L'Inde franchi une nouvelle étape dans la création d'une base de données unifiée pour l'ensemble de la population.
- Grâce au programme de 10 Mds USD du MeitY, les entreprises n'auront à investir que 30 à 35 % du capital requis pour construire une usine de fabrication de semiconducteurs ou d'écrans en Inde.

### TÉLÉCOMMUNICATIONS:

- 5G : la norme indienne 5Gi va fusionner avec les normes 3GPP sur la base d'un compromis.
- L'ISRO a conclu six accords de lancement de satellites avec des clients de quatre pays, pour un total de 132 MEUR d'ici 2023.

REVUE DE PRESSE SECTORIELLE NUMERIQUE

## Revue de presse

## 1. NUMÉRIQUE

Joint committee calls for one body to regulate personal, non-personal data

### ETBureau, 16/12/2021

India's data protection regime must encompass both personal and non-personal data, provide for local storage of sensitive and critical data and treat social media platforms as content publishers according to the much-awaited report tabled in both houses of Parliament on Thursday.

The Joint Committee of Parliament (JCP) in its report on the Personal Data Protection Bill (2019) has sought the establishment of a single regulatory authority to oversee both personal and non-personal data and recommended that the centre, in consultation with sectoral regulators, prepare an extensive policy on data localisation. It also allows for broad exemptions to the government from the provisions of the bill, as it paves the way for a landmark legislation that can change the way internet and technology firms do business in India.

The JCP has suggested an approximate period of 24 months for implementation of the provisions so that companies and government departments have enough time to make the necessary changes to their policies, infrastructure and processes.

The proposed bill, which began as a way to protect personal data of Indians on the internet, has over time expanded to regulate other aspects of the digital and data ecosystem.

"While the JCP has retained much of what was positive with the 2019 Bill, and accepted many more recommendations from the industry, certain areas will require further deliberation – particularly the expansion of the scope to cover non-**personal data**," said Debjani Ghosh, president of industry lobby Nasscom.

The Bill's application to non-personal data and having a single regulator for both personal and non-personal data needs careful analysis and deeper debate, the industry grouping said.

Experts studying the impact of the provisions expressed concern over the composition of the data protection authority (DPA) that is slated to have a majority of either government appointed members or government recommended-experts. **The DPA will also have India**'s Attorney General as a member.

Terming the JCP report as "an important step ahead for the legislation of a data protection law in India," Apar Gupta, Executive Director at Internet Freedom Foundation said there are "underlying concerns with respect to the independence of the regulator which is the Data Protection Authority (DPA), and large exemptions to the government departments which remain till date."

### **Right to Privacy**

The proposal for a comprehensive data protection regime came about after the Supreme Court of India declared that privacy is a fundamental right in 2017 and directed the government to come up with adequate regulations.

Nasscom said it expects the recommendations of the committee to be widely debated and discussed so that India continues to enable cross-border data flows without undue restrictions, provide an effective safe harbour regime for intermediaries and ensure a globally competitive market ecosystem for fintech and the financial sector in general. The JCP in its report has called for certification of all digital and IoT devices, which industry watchers estimate could increase compliance costs. "Considering that the data protection law will be one of the key legislations to drive the economy



of the future, the government needs to tread carefully on the issues( such as) regulation of non-personal data under the same legislation," said Rajat Prakash, Managing Partner, Athena Legal.

"Any over-regulation or any actions contrary to global norms could impact the future of the digital economy," he added.

A spokesperson for e-commerce giant Amazon said that with the advent of the PDP Bill India has an opportunity to shape a regulatory regime that creates a data secure environment without compromising job growth and creation.

### Media regulation

The committee has also said there is a need for the establishment of a "statutory body for media regulation" while terming existing media regulators as "not appropriately equipped" to regulate those platforms that use modern methods of communication such as social media platforms or the internet at large.

Nikhil Narendran, a partner in law firm Trilegal was of the view that while "there are no surprises in the bill, giving the government an exception is the only serious issue in the bill."

"Due to this provision India may not get "adequacy" status from the European Union, which will in turn restrict data flows to India, and affect the competitiveness of the outsourcing industry in the long run," he added.

An adequacy decision permits a cross-border data transfer outside the European Union or onward transfer from or to a party outside the EU without further authorisation from a national supervisory authority.

"On data flows, the committee has retained the provisions as they were in the 2019 Bill, which may make it difficult for the new Bill to achieve adequacy status, a critical component for India to enter into bilateral or multilateral treaties for data trans**fer," said Kazim Rizvi, Founding** Director, The Dialogue.

Legal experts are in agreement that it is a time for India to have a comprehensive data protection regime. Kirti Mahapatra, Partner at Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, said the firm looks forward to the "progression of the Parliamentary process of bringing about comprehensive data protection law for India."

# Airtel and Capgemini collaborate to offer 5G-based solutions to Indian enterprises

### TechCircle, 14/12/2021

Bharti Airtel and Capgemini will jointly introduce a 5G-based enterprise grade solutions in the Indian market that will help to fuel innovation, revolutionise business models and accelerate digital transformation, according to an official statement.

Airtel and Capgemini will bring together their experience in connectivity and 5G solutioning, and System Integration (SI) capabilities, to coinnovate a range of India-focused use cases. Capgemini's 5G Lab, situated within its Mumbai campus, and Airtel's 5G Lab in Manesar will be the development hub, the statement read.

Two 5G use cases have already been deployed by **Capgemini at Airtel's 5G Lab. These are focused** on Smart Health and Immersive Remote Assistance for Field Operations and Maintenance. These use case solutions leverage computer vision, video analytics, augmented reality and AI/ML technologies.

Ananth Chandramouli, Managing Director of the **India Business Unit, Capgemini, said, "Our** partnership with Airtel is truly a game changer for both of us and has the potential to disrupt the market dynamics. Through this partnership, our focus will be on enabling enterprises to leverage the benefits of 5G technology and identifying exciting new use cases to fuel



innovation, revolutionise business models and accelerate digital transformation."

Ganesh Lakshminarayanan, CEO – Enterprise Business, Airtel Business added, "Airtel has been leading 5G testing and validation in India and looks forward to building an open and vibrant ecosystem that brings together all stakeholders and drives innovation. Through this partnership with Capgemini, we look forward to offering our customers cutting edge solutions, which deliver the benefits of the 5G technology."

As part of its #5GforBusiness initiative, Airtel is joining forces with leading global consulting and technology companies to test 5G-based solutions. Earlier this year, Airtel demonstrated India's first 5G experience over a LIVE 4G network. It has also demonstrated India's first rural 5G trial as well as the first cloud gaming experience on 5G. The company is also spearheading the O-RAN Alliance initiatives in India to build 5G solutions.

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved reimbursement of Rs 1,300 crore on digital transactions using UPI and Rupay debit cards.

### PTI, 15/12/2021

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved reimbursement of Rs 1,300 crore on digital transactions using UPI and Rupay debit cards, Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. The minister said that the government will reimburse transaction charges levied on digital payments made by persons to the merchant as part of the merchant discount rate (MDR).

"In the coming one year...the government will invest around Rs 1,300 crore so that more and more people move towards digital payments," Vaishnaw said.

He also said that 423 crore digital transactions valued at Rs 7.56 lakh crore took place in November.

### India antiturts watchdog suspends Amazon's 2019 deal with Future, imposes fine

TechCrunch, 17/12/2021

An Indian antitrust watchdog has revoked the approval it had granted for **Amazon's 2019** investment in a Future Group unit and imposed a fine of about \$26.3 million to the American ecommerce giant for concealing facts.

The Competition Commission of India said Amazon, which invested in Future Coupons in **2019**, "suppress[ed] the actual scope and purpose of the combination" and failed to notify some of its commercial arrangements.

Reliance Retail, India's largest retail chain, said a year ago it had reached an agreement with Future Group to acquire the latter's retail and wholesaler business, as well as its logistics and warehousing business, for \$3.4 billion. (CCI has approved the deal between the nation's two largest retail chains.)

Things began to get complicated shortly afterwards. Amazon accused Future Group of violating its contract and approached the Singapore arbitrator to halt the deal between the Indian firms, saying it had the right for first investment in Future Group. The matter reached **India's Supreme Court, which in August ruled in** favor of Amazon to stall the deal.

The CCI, which originally approved the deal between Amazon and Future, began reviewing it again following a complaint from Future.

"The conduct of Amazon in supressing relevant and material documents against the disclosure requirement under Item 8.8 of Form I is a contravention of clause (c) of sub-section (1) of Section 45 of the Act," said CCI in a 59-page order on Friday. [H/T Reuters journalist Aditya Kalra.]



Amazon, which is required to pay the fine within 60 days, said in a statement that it was reviewing the order.

"We are reviewing the order passed by the Competition Commission of India, and will decide on next steps in due course," a spokesperson told TechCrunch.

The development comes days after Amazon warned the Indian antitrust body that revoking its 2019 deal with Future Group would send a negative signal to foreign investors and enable **Reliance, the owner of India's largest retail chain,** to "further restrict competition."

Confederation of All India Traders, a lobby group that represents millions of retailers in the South Asian market, said CCI's Friday order is "a landmark order and Amazon stands fully exposed for its mal-practices, and bunch of lies at all levels together with continued violation of laws and the rules."

# From Birth to Death, Taking a Look at India's Real-Time Governance Dreams

The Wire, 23/12/2021

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) recently announced plans to enrol newborn babies into the Aadhaar programme at the hospital itself by partnering with the Registrar of Births.

This move comes at a time when the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) wants to make amendments to the Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969 to create birth and death databases. Since 2014, most birth and death registration is already carried out electronically and has been further linked to the Aadhaar of next of kin. According to a circular by the Office of the Registrar General, Ministry of Home Affairs, the inclusion of Aadhaar is to achieve linkage between the Civil Registration System of birth and death registration with the National Population Register (NPR). The primary aim of this linkage is to maintain a real-time database of the population by keeping track of births and deaths.

As registrations of birth and death are already digitised and linked with Aadhaar, some of the proposed amendments to the Registration of Birth and Death Act can be seen as a mere procedural formality.

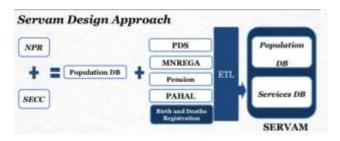
There is, however, an important amendment that is being proposed to allow sharing of birth and death registration databases to update the National Population Register, the Aadhaar database, voter database, the motor vehicles registry, ration cards database and passport database. Put simply, **the MHA's interest in using** birth and death registration to update all other databases is to build a 360-degree profile of population databases of all Indians. While this **sounds closer to the ministry's NATGRID project**, it comes with the new terminology of real-time governance.

The idea of real-time governance to track everyone in the country from birth to death is being shown as a form of predictive governance. The government needs to provide a host of services to citizens between birth and death. And by tracking people in real-time, these services will be provided before citizens can demand them. This process involves what they call life driven services - if someone turns 18, they are entitled to vote and using real-time governance, they will receive a Voter ID before they apply for one. Similarly, if a student joins a university and deserves a particular scholarship, it will proactively be given to him before she applies for one. A very techno-utopian idea of governance, where citizens don't have to ask for anything and the government will provide it before one demands it.

To achieve this techno-utopian reality, a unified population database needs to be created which can be effectively used to track people in realtime. There were multiple proposals for such unified databases that were brought up during a DBT seminar in Delhi on July 22, 2016. One of the designs was SERVAM – Unified Beneficiary REVUE DE PRESSE SECTORIELLE NUMERIQUE

Database – which would centralise all population databases in the country by interlinking the National Population Register, the Socio-Economic Caste Census, the PDS, NREGA, pension, LPG and birth and death registration databases. The end outcome of this exercise was to create a real-time population database and a real-time services database.

While in theory, linking existing databases would be enough to build a real-time database of population, it is largely unverified data. Publicprivate partnerships and the introduction of village-level entrepreneurs (VLE) to collect data on the ground has induced a lot of faulty data into the system, even with Aadhaar. This has been the MHA's concern since the beginning to not allow Aadhaar, but push NPR across India. Journalist Rachna Khaira, who has documented several cases of misuse of login credentials to these databases has investigated how the registration of birth and death certificates has also been gamed by these VLEs to generate fake certificates. The only way the MHA intends to clean up these databases is using Census 2021 and the creation of a 'perfect' National Population Register.



The proposed amendments make a case for a unified database at the state level. Several states have already digitised birth and death registration and have this data integrated with their respective State Resident Data Hubs. But now, the Union government is proposing to create a larger 360-degree profile family database. This has been confirmed by the minister of state for electronics and information technology in the winter session of parliament. The centralisation of this data from state to Centre is to further update the NPR and interlink it with other associated databases.

It is important to understand where these models of inter-linking databases to build unified databases are coming from Estonia. The postcommunist nation became a World Bank laboratory in the 90s and was able to radically transform itself into a digital republic by building databases on top of their national digital identity. In Estonia, everything has a database and they are interconnected to create an **information network called "X-Road". The** country has a national population register, a national vehicle register, a healthcare insurance register, a land ownership register and an epolice system. But Estonia is a tiny nation with a population less than Delhi.

The Estonian system has been actively adopted by several Indian states, primarily Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, where they are called E-Pragathi and Samagraha Vedika. Championed by J. Satyanarayana, the ex-UIDAI Chairman and MeITY secretary, real-time governance and 360profiling has been extensively degree experimented in Andhra Pradesh under N. Chandrababu Naidu's term. Several other states like Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab have followed to build family databases and family IDs. These systems are not new and were actively promoted by the UIDAI since 2011, terming them State Resident Databases. The extensive push and experimentation that took place in AP and Telangana has caused several problems including voter deletions and leak of the entire State Resident Data, including Aadhaar numbers, to Chandrababu Naidu's Telugu Desam Party in Andhra Pradesh.

The MHA's push for a civil registration system, MPR, Aadhaar and NATGRID are proposals that came after the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, ostensible to tackle internal security. The initial idea of NATGRID was to inter-link databases from 21 departments to allow security agencies to profile the population. Indian activists have always warned that linking Aadhaar with different databases will effectively be used to inter-link



these databases to help build 360-degree profiles like NATGRID. This issue of 360-degree profiling too was raised as part of the Aadhaar case in the Supreme Court with respect to the State Resident Data hubs. During the proceedings, the Supreme Court was informed by the Union government that these databases do not exist anymore. Therefore, the judgment doesn't look into this issue.

Real-time governance also involves real-time policing, which is actively visible in Hyderabad, where the police have built a 360-degree profile database of everyone in the city, terming it the Integrated Information Hub (IIH) with access to **Telangana's State Resident Data Hub. Similar to** their counterparts in Estonia, the Hyderabad **police have access to everyone's personal details** and actively collect new information using doorto-door searches in the city. While Estonia has some accountability and transparency in place, India has no oversight or laws in place to protect personal data.

There are many 360-degree profiling databases that are being built by the Union and state governments. These include NATGRID, Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems, Integrated Criminal Justice System, Project Insight, Social Registry, Family Database, State Resident Data Hubs. All of these systems are further connected with a large system called the India Enterprise Architecture – India's equivalent of Estonia's X-Road. State Resident Data Hubs, which were supposed to be non-existent, are now State Enterprise Architectures. Apart from these governance databases, several stacks built by the private sector like IndiaStack, HealthStack, Urban Stack, AgriStack become part of this larger network.

The draft data protection Bill gives blanket exceptions to the government in data collection and processing, enabling the creation of these 360-degree profile digital infrastructures. There may be many perspectives on the tiny amendment to the Registration of Births and Deaths Act. But from a political economy lens, it has far-reaching consequences for Indian democracy.

Without a serious privacy and surveillance law, this Bill should not be discussed in isolation. While the nation-state has powers of both surveillance and registration of births and deaths, the blanket creation of 360-degree profile databases of everyone needs to be questioned.

## Sops will knock off 65-70% of chips fab setup costs for companies

### ETPrime, 27/12/2021

Industry executives and experts have given a thumbs-**up to the government's newly** formulated semiconductor policy, the fine print of which was released last week. Some concerns remain however, pertaining to government taking stake in lieu of the subsidy and gradation of incentives for fabs of different sizes.

According to the policy, companies will need to shell out only 30-35% of the total project cost to set up a semiconductor fab and display fab, as the central government will provide 50% subsidy while states have been allowed to offer incentives over and above what the central government has proposed.

Various states are already offering sops on capital expenditure, of between 10% and 15% along with a host of other incentives.

The Vedanta Group, which is looking to invest between \$3 billion and \$5 billion to set up a display fabrication unit in the country, said the fine print looks favourable.

**"For the first time, the government has** announced the incentive on a pari-passu (equal **footing) basis," said Akarsh Hebbar, managing** director, AvanStrate Inc, which is part of the Vedanta Group.

Pari Passu denotes that the government will start providing the subsidy right at the construction



stage in a phased manner. This will be a huge advantage for companies since semiconductor plants are very expensive and take several years to be built and start production.

There are, however, some areas of concern.

The topmost pertains to the gradation that the government has provided in the policy.

It has said that it would provide up to 50% fiscal support for fabs that are 28-nanometre (nm) or below, up to 40% for 45-nm fabs and 30% for 65-nm fabs.

"This is something strange, because economic viability across the board requires support," said Ajay Jalan, founder and managing partner of Next Orbit Ventures.

"The only logic I can see is that they only want only 28-nm digital fabs and want to discourage 65-nm or 45-nm fabs. It will not be an ideal situation because, you know, the semiconductor ecosystem will not be complete without analogue or memory or digital," Jalan said.

All three need to be supported and "the staggered support" is not what industry will appreciate, he added.

Jalan's firm has already submitted a proposal to the government worth \$3 billion for an analogue fab of 65-nm.

"Another worry is that these incentives can be against equity to the government," Jalan explained. "The whole purpose of the grant and subsidies will be lost if an equity stake is taken to the extent of 49% against the fiscal support. Then it is not support; it is like a joint venture with the government. Government taking 49% dilutes the whole purpose of the scheme," he addd.

The government has notified the Rs 76,000 crore (\$10 billion) package and said that applications will open on January 1 and close within 45 days.

The government will fund 50% of the capital expenditure for two chip fabs and two display fabs, it said.

"There is a 45-day window, so there is urgency," said Arun Mampazhy, an expert on semiconductor fab technology. "There seems to be a reasonably good guideline in terms of who can apply. You either have to have experience in running a 65-nm or a 45-nm or a 28-nm or above fab or you should have a licence for 28-nm and a roadmap for advanced note," he said. "...which means, hopefully, any random person cannot apply without really having either an agreement or a joint venture or a licence, at least from one of the reliable and respected fabs."

The government subsidy is in line with sops offered by other nations, said Hebbar of AvanStrate.

"The application window of 45 days is more than enough. As soon as it was announced, a lot of Taiwanese and Korean companies mobilized their resources and are saying that they want to look at India seriously," he added.

Industry experts said the comprehensive policy and the various sops under it are a step in the right direction and will provide impetus to the sector. The short window of 45 days for applications will also help in faster closure of the scheme.

"The freedom to state governments to pitch in is definitely good," Mampazhy said. "Hopefully, the state governments will take it in a competitive spirit. In addition to that, the infrastructure support for Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) 2.0 scheme will also provide ways to get additional support and demand aggregation support."

According to the government notification, the government will also provide additional infrastructure support through the EMC 2.0 scheme, demand aggregation, support for R&D, skill development and training along with state government aid, if any.



For compound fabs and ATMP facilities, 30% of the capital expenditure will be reimbursed and the tenure of the scheme will be three years starting January 1.

The government is expecting 15 to 20 companies to be supported in each category.

Experts also said that the government has done a good job in terms of prioritising and putting out details of which areas are of urgent focus. There is, however, a fair bit of confusion over the extent of government support.

"There is no upper ceiling; 30% of capex incentive is mentioned but how far can that capex go? It also says that this is open for three years and the government is expecting about 15 to 20 beneficiaries. So, the government is taking it as it comes, because it's still an evolving market," Mampazhy said.

For the compounds in Silicon Photonics, Mampazhy said he was unsure about how far a Rs 100 crore investment the government - would go.

"How much upwards of that (Rs 100 crore), we'll have to wait and see, because even there, to put up a decent fab, you will need to put in a few billions, or at least little close to a billion depending on which one you're talking about," he added. "There is speculation that various companies, both global companies as well as some domestic players, have expressed interest."

### 2. Télécommunications

India's 5Gi to be merged with global standard

### ET Bureau, 15/12/2021

India's local 5G standard, 5Gi, is likely to be merged with the global standard for the fifth generation mobile network technology under a "compromise formula" between the industry and indigenous standard proponents, said people aware of the matter.

The development comes after opposition to the local standard even from the Department of Telecommunications' technical arm, Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC).

The participating organisations, according to an industry executive, agreed on an arrangement that would facilitate the merger between 5Gi and 3GPP, and the new merged standards is expected to be accepted by 3GPP early this week.

The 3GPP or the third-generation partnership project is a global initiative that provides standards and specifications on telecommunications technologies.

The 5Gi and 3GPP-5G merger is a milestone and will be a key enabler to achieve high-speed, high quality connectivity for all as 5G gets rolled out in India and the rest of the world, said a senior official of India's standards body.

The 5G Radio Interface Technology, called 5Gi, is an initiative of the Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI), together with the academia, whose merger plan with the global 5G standards, will now be submitted to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and TEC.

The merger initiative, spearheaded by the USbased chipset maker Qualcomm, following intense pushback from the industry led by multinational vendors such as Sweden's Ericsson, Finland's Nokia and China's Huawei, has been led in the country by the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), which represents Reliance Jio Infocomm, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone-Idea.

The COAI opposed the national standard, arguing that the 5Gi ecosystem is yet to be developed, validated and tested, and would result in technology fragmentation.



In a series of letters to the telecom department, the COAI said that any mandate to such standard may put the consumer at a burden since sufficient options are not available for device ecosystem, and would put an additional burden to telecom carriers that may lead to a further delay in rolling out 5G in the country.

On the other hand, the Indian academia, led by IIT Madras director Bhasker Ramamurthy, advocated that 5Gi standards should be made mandatory for Indian telecom service providers.

"The TSDSI's push for having national standards for bridging the digital divide has become a classic case of economic concept of the cobra effect wherein an attempted solution to a problem makes the problem even more worse," said Pradeep S Mehta, secretary general, CUTS International said.

Industry stakeholders and experts had already pointed out that any move to mandate an Indiaspecific standard would pose a plethora of challenges such as increased 5G devices cost due to a new variant of chipset and reduction in competitive landscape, and that a unilateral Indian standard was likely to disconnect users from international mobile networks.

ISRO signed six agreements with four countries for launching foreign satellites

ANI, 17/12/2021

New Delhi: Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Thursday said that the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed six agreements with four countries for launching foreign satellites during 2021-22. In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Singh informed that about 132 million Euros would be earned through launching these foreign satellites on a commercial basis.

"ISRO through its commercial arm, New Space India Limited (NSIL), a Government of India company under Department of Space (DOS), has been launching satellites belonging to other countries on-board Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), on on a commercial basis," Singh said.

He further said that the NSIL as on date has signed six Launch Service Agreements with customers from four countries for launching foreign satellites into space on-board PSLV during 2021-2023.

A total number of <mark>124 indigenous satellites have been put into Earth's orbit</mark> including 12 student satellites.

In another written reply to a similar question in the Rajya Sabha today, Singh informed that starting from 1999 till date, a total of 342 foreign satellites belonging to 34 countries have been successfully launched onboard PSLV on a commercial basis.

The Minister said that through launching of foreign satellites on-board Indian launch vehicle, India has earned a Foreign Exchange revenue of approximately 35 Million USD and 10 Million Euros during the last 3 years between 2019 to 2021.

The type of foreign satellites that were launched through Indian Launch Vehicle includes satellites primarily for Earth Observation, Scientific and Technology demonstration purposes, he added.

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Responsable de la publication

e la publication : Service e Rédacteurs : Feli VISC

Service économique de New Delhi Feli VISCO, Thomas SALEZ

Pour s'abonner : Crédits photo :

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