Pakistan

Statement on Agenda No. 4

Fourth session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation

Fourth Industrial Revolution Technologies for Sustainable Development

"Honorable Excellencies & Distinguished Delegates,

Industry 4.0 is revolutionizing the way companies manufacture, improve and distribute their products. Manufacturers are integrating new technologies, including Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing and analytics, and AI and machine learning into their production facilities and throughout their operations. These smart factories are equipped with advanced sensors, embedded software and robotics that collect and analyze data and allow for better decision making.

Developing smart factories provides an incredible opportunity for the manufacturing industry to enter the fourth industrial revolution. Analyzing the large amounts of big data collected from sensors on the factory floor ensures real-time visibility of manufacturing assets and can provide tools for performing predictive maintenance in order to minimize equipment downtime.

The field of 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies has attracted researchers because of its ambitious goals and enormous underlying intellectual challenges. Attributed to recent advancements, AI powered robots are now doing the grunt work in factories. Driverless cars have become a reality. Barbie uses speech-recognition to talk (and listen) to children. Companies are using AI to improve their product and increase sales through E-commerce.

We at Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication and its apex bodies, Pakistan Software Export Board and Ignite are very much cognizant of these emerging challenges for our industry and society at large and are introducing programs tailored for our national needs namely, Challenge-driven Innovation Fund and Technology Transition Fund. Aim is to promote indigenous research and innovation activities by providing a platform for Industry 4.0 related businesses and promote a culture of global competitiveness. By aligning our programs with the national Industry 4.0 vision, the Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication is aiming to create a visible impact at the national scale.

Thank you for the opportunity and looking forward to working closely with the honorable members."