

**India's country statement for the Committee on Information and Communication Technology and Science, Technology and Innovation, Fourth session (CICTSTI4) of ESCAP**

30 August to 1 September 2022

1. India appreciates the efforts of the Secretariat of UNESCAP, especially of the Committee on ICT & STI in adoption and promotion of fourth Industrial Revolution Technologies for sustainable development in the Asia Pacific Region.
2. As host country to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) since 1977, India shares a long and mutually supportive relationship with the Centre in advancing science, technology and innovation (STI) agenda in the Asia-Pacific region.
3. In 2021, India had the honour to host the Seventeenth session of the Governing Council of APCTT and facilitated the proceedings and deliberations of the intergovernmental meeting of ESCAP. India, as a prelude to the 17th Session of Governing Council of the APCTT, organized the International Conference on Fourth Industrial Revolution Technologies for Sustainable Development on 30 November 2021 in New Delhi, India.
4. India supports the initiatives of the Committee on ICT & STI regarding fourth industrial revolution for sustainable development. India participated in capacity building events organized by APCTT during 2021 and 2022 to promote exchange and knowledge sharing on the opportunities, strategies and challenges in exploring fourth industrial revolution technologies in Asia & the Pacific.
5. The vision of Digital India Programme through adoption of BHIM-UPI, Aadhaar and Cowin transformed India into a digitally empowered society, which is essential prelude to the Fourth Industrial Revolution. BHIM-UPI and COWIN facilitates Indian citizens by way of easing- digital financial transactions and managing mass vaccination especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
6. India has a vibrant ecosystem in the form of technological infrastructure, equipped with Centres of Excellence/ Common Engineering Facility Centres (CEFC) / Demo Centres to showcase and train talent in disruptive technologies of Industry 4.0.
7. The Government of India has taken several initiatives under different capital goods schemes to establish centres of excellence, thereby promoting technological innovations in deep tech of Industry 4.0, such as cyber-physical systems, edge computing, machine tools, data analytics and many more.

8. The Government of India has pioneered national policies to promote Industry 4.0, which are focussed on Advanced manufacturing, Internet of Things (IoT), Block chain, Cyber-Physical Systems and Artificial Intelligence.
9. Under these initiatives, the Department of Heavy Industries (DHI) has successfully initiated the Samarth Udyog Bharat 4.0 initiative to pioneer and adopt the best practices of Industry 4.0 for the capital goods industry.
10. In addition, MSME Technology Development Centres, Software Technology Parks of India, Centre of Excellence for 4th Industrial Revolution, NASSCOM Centre of Excellence (CoE) by several State Governments and Advanced Manufacturing automation by Ministry of Railways (Integral Coach Factory) are also important steps from India.
11. NITI Aayog of India has formulated a roadmap which includes setting-up of five research excellence centers, 20 institutes for transformational AI and cloud computing platform.
12. Ministry of Science & Technology has set up 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIH) across the country through the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) to boost new and emerging 4IR technologies to power National initiatives in key areas.
13. Fourth Industrial revolution is already being implemented in stages, but a healthy supply chain is required to ensure its smooth and balanced deployment.
14. The promotion and adoption of these technologies require huge quantitative and qualitative investments especially on Cyber infrastructure such as high performance computing, which plays a crucial role in realizing various technologies that can create value for Industry 4.0 networks.
15. ESCAP and APCTT may explore the possibilities of support to member States in mainstreaming the usage of 4IR technologies through formulating policy and advisory, research and analytical help, strategy/roadmap development, and training and capacity building of targeted stakeholders with knowledge dissemination.

Thank you.