GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2646
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

Infrastructure facilities in Gram Panchayats

2646. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing plans/schemes to ensure that adequate infrastructure facilities are available in the Gram Panchayats across the country, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government had also proposed for computerization of all panchayats and provision of services online;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the financial allocation made by Government for this purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether the computerization efforts consist of latest technology/software/internet connectivity, etc. and are being frequently upgraded with the changing technologies/software; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a)   to (c) 'Panchayat' being a State subject, providing infrastructure facilities to the Panchayats is primarily the responsibility of the State / UT Governments. Under the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) /Capacity Building- Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (CB-PSA)/ erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA), Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) provides financial assistance to States/ UTs for e-enablement including computers and peripherals. However, in the context of devolution of funds under Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) award, the support for procurement of computers to States has been discontinued w.e.f. 2015-16. The State/ UT-wise details of funds sanctioned for e-enablement during the last three years and current year are given in **Annexure**. Further, some amount from the FFC grant can also be utilised by the Gram Panchayats for procurement of computers.

MoPR is also implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) that seeks to transform the functioning of all the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by making them more transparent, accountable and effective as organs of decentralized self-governing institutions. Under e-Panchayat MMP, a suite of Core Common Applications has been developed to address various

aspects of Panchayats' functioning including planning, budgeting, implementation, accounting, monitoring, social audit and delivery of citizen services like issue of certificates, licences etc. Together these applications constitute the Panchayat Enterprise Suite (PES). The aim of the MMP is to automate the internal functioning and e-enable the service delivery across all nearly 2.5 lakh panchayats. The level of adoption of various PES Applications at panchayat level varies across States / UTs due to differentials in the preparedness of panchayats for e-enablement. Besides, some States have also developed their own State-specific applications for similar purposes.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, is implementing the BharatNet project to provide broadband connectivity to all GPs of the country. Phase-I of the project to connect one lakh GPs has been completed in December, 2017. As on 4th March, 2018, about 1,13,226 GPs in the country have been connected by Optical Fibre and 1,03,730 GPs have been made service ready. All the GPs in the country are targeted to the connected by March, 2019 in phase II of the project.

Further, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, initiated a project namely, "Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0" in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme for a period of four years, which aimed to set up at least one CSC at GP level to cover all 2.5 lakh GPs across the country. The key objective of CSCs is to deliver various citizen centric services, such as, Government to Citizen (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) services, financial inclusion services, educational services, skill development services etc. Till February, 2018, there are 2,92,481 CSCs functioning across the country; among which, 1,83,184 CSCs are at GP level.

(d) and (e): Based on the feedback received from States, the PES applications are continuously updated to meet the various State-specific requirements. Furthermore, with changing technologies, the software applications are also continuously upgraded by National Informatics Center (NIC). Also under BharatNet it is now targeted to connect all the GPs in the country through Optical Fibre Cable by using an optical mix of underground fibre, aerial fibre, radio and satellite media.

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Annexure refered in reply to part (a) to (c) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2646 for 19.03.2018 regarding Infrastructure facilities in Gram Panchayats

Statewise amount sanctioned for e-enablement (2014-15 to 2017-18)

S. No.	State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.53	0.76	12.89	10.55
2	Assam	4.4	1.26	1.2	3.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.08	0	0
4	Bihar	7.32	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	8	2.96	2.29	0.13
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
7	Daman & Diu	0.18	0	0	0
8	Dadra & Nagar	0.14	0	0	0
9	Goa	0	0.33	0.01	0.03
10	Gujarat	4.31	3.25	4.82	0
11	Haryana	3.68	0	1.4	1.90
12	Himachal Pradesh	7.64	0.51	0.4	0
13	Jammu & Kashmir	6.19	1.5	0	0
14	Jharkhand	0	2.05	2.09	2.12
15	Karnataka	2.52	1.37	1.32	1.33
16	Kerala	9.78	0	0	0
17	Lakshadweep	0	0.06	0	0
18	Maharashtra	0	0	3.06	8.31
19	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	1.85
20	Manipur	0	0.26	0.18	0.29
21	Mizoram	0.48	0	0	0.5
22	Odisha	5.61	0.88	1.12	1.12
23	Punjab	0.4	0	0.94	0.95
24	Rajasthan	0	0.75	3.54	3.52
25	Sikkim	0.7	0.28	0.31	0.38
26	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0.61	0.15
27	Telangana	8.22	0	0	5.42
28	Tripura	0.08	0	0	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	40	0	0	6.09
30	Uttarakhand	4	0.99	0.62	0
31	West Bengal	2.03	0.89	0.91	1
32	Andaman	0	0	0	0
	Total	**122.21**	**18.18**	**37.71**	**48.64**