GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 494
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

FREE INTERNET AND WI-FI FACILITIES IN ALL VILLAGES

494 # Shri Satish Chandra Dubey:

Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to provide free internet and Wi-Fi facilities in all the villages of the country for the benefit of farmers so that they could be enlightened about the agricultural sector and updated information could be provided to them regarding new development in this field; and

(b) if so, the measures/ action being taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) & (b) No Sir. However, Govt. has created mKisan Portal to provide free advisory services to the farmers and all others associated with the farming and allied activities. More than 5 crore farmers are registered on the portal and getting benefitted from this service. Scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes and experts from Krishi Vigyan Kendras extend free advisory services to the farming community through the portal as well as through WhatsApp groups and other digital means. Further, Department of Agricultural Research and Education /Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed over 170 mobile applications on various technologies which are hosted on the ICAR website to provide free information.

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