

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1135  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024**

**INSTALLATION OF WI-FI HOTSPOTS IN GRAM PANCHAYATS**

**1135 SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Gram Panchayats in the country and those provided with Wi-Fi hotspots, as of 15th November, 2024, State-wise;
- (b) the details on the number of active hotspots;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to connect all inhabited villages beyond Gram Panchayats to optical fibre network; and
- (d) if so, the achievement made so far and the amount spent thereon, State-wise?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) & (b) Total number of service ready Gram Panchayats (GPs) is 2,14,283 and Wi-Fi Hotspots is 1,04,574. The State wise details are available on Digital Bharat Nidhi website (<https://usof.gov.in/en/home>). Wi-Fi service is supported by equipment installed at many GPs.

(c) & (d) Government has approved the Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) on 04.08.2023. The program provides for Optical Fibre (OF) connectivity to 2.64 lakh GPs in ring topology and also to provide OF connectivity to the remaining Non-GP villages (approx. 3.8 lakhs) on demand basis. The construction phase of ABP is three years from the date of signing of agreement.

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