

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2966**  
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

**BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY TO ALL GRAM PANCHAYATS**

2966 # SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had set a target to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats under BharatNet Project, if so, the year set for achieving the target and whether the target was achieved within the stipulated time, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the number of Gram Panchayats where the said facility has not been made available yet, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has set any time limit to complete the pending work under the said scheme, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

**(a) to (c)** To attain the vision of Digital India, the BharatNet project is being implemented by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in the country. The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized to provide broadband services, such as Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc. As of Feb-2025, a total of 2,14,323 GPs have been made service ready under BharatNet project in the country.

On 04.08.2023, the Union Cabinet has approved the Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) under Design, Built, Operate and Maintain (DBOM) model, for up-gradation of existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II, creation of network in nearly 42,000 GPs not yet service ready and Operation and Maintenance for 10 years. The connectivity to villages that lie in non-Part- IX areas is proposed to be provided on demand basis. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been given the target of providing 1.50 crore Fiber to the Home (FTTH) connections to households in next five years. The timeline for completion of Amended BharatNet Program is March 2027.

\*\*\*