

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2090
ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2025**

STATUS OF BHARATNET

**2090# SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:
SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:
SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI ADITYA PRASAD:
DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:
SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of BharatNet, including total GPs/villages connected and progress under Phase-II and State-led models;
- (b) the details of fiber rollout, Wi-Fi hotspot operationalization and service readiness, along with State-wise active broadband usage;
- (c) whether the impact of BharatNet on governance, education, telemedicine, agriculture and digital payments has been evaluated;
- (d) if so, the key findings thereof;
- (e) the eligibility norms, incentives and implementation status of BharatNet Udyami initiative for rural home-fiber connections; and
- (f) the details and outcomes of the initiative?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs). The total number of GPs undertaken under BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II are 2,22,341 GPs, out of which 2,14,904 are Service Ready. The total number of GPs undertaken under BharatNet Phase-II including State-led model is 1,02,133 GPs, out of which 94,725 are Service Ready. A total of 6,94,871 KM OFC has been laid under BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II. Wi-Fi service is supported by equipment installed at many GPs. The state-wise data consumption on BharatNet network are available on Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) website (<https://usof.gov.in/en/home>).

(c) & (d) Yes, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) conducted a third-party audit during March–April 2024 to assess the implementation of a pilot project for implementation of 5 lakh FTTH connections in rural areas through the BharatNet network. The audit findings indicated satisfactory coverage of FTTH services across various States/UTs through OLT installed by BNU partners.

(e) & (f) Village level entrepreneur, Internet Service Provider, Self Help Group (SHG) etc. can become a BharatNet Udyami (BNU). The BNU is provided one-time capex incentive to install the connections. A pilot project funded from DBN for rolling out of 5 lakh rural FTTH connections in GPs/villages using BharatNet through BharatNet Udyamis (BNUs) was implemented through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). The pilot project was completed on 01.05.2024. As on 08.12.2025 a total of 7,52,161 connections provided by BNUs are working.
