

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2099
ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2025**

IMPLEMENTATION OF BHARATNET PROJECT

2099 SHRI A. D. SINGH:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of BharatNet project aimed at connecting all Gram Panchayats through optical fibre;
- (b) the number of Panchayats connected, so far, and those pending; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure timely completion and maintenance of the project in rural areas?

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. Further, Government has approved the Amended BharatNet Program on 04.08.2023 through which Optical Fiber Connectivity is to be provided to ~2.64 lakh GPs and ~3.8 lakh non-GP villages on demand basis.

(c) Implementation of BharatNet is periodically reviewed by the Government and also in State Broadband Committee(s) and District Level Telecom Committee(s). The following have been included to strengthen the maintenance of infrastructure:

- (i) Creation and Upgradation of BharatNet network in ring architecture
- (ii) Operations & Maintenance of the entire network based on Service Level Agreement (SLA) for 10 years.
- (iii) Single Project Implementation Agency (PIA) for construction and O&M of the network in a Package
- (iv) Dedicated Network Operation Centre both at State and Central levels.
