

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1300

ANSWERED ON 11/02/2026

Wi-Fi-enabled classrooms in Odisha's rural schools

1300 Smt. Sulata Deo:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry plans to expand high-speed internet connectivity and Wi-Fi-enabled classrooms in Odisha's rural schools under BharatNet or PM e-Vidya initiatives; and
(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b): The Government of India, in the Budget 2025, has announced provision of broadband connectivity to all Government Secondary schools in rural areas under the 'BharatNet' project to enhance digital infrastructure in remote areas by BSNL in a phased manner. 616 Government Secondary schools in rural areas of Odisha are getting covered under phase 1, which helps in expanding Wi-Fi enabled classrooms.

A comprehensive initiative called PM e-Vidya was launched as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education across the country including the State of Odisha. Out of 200 PM e-Vidya DTH TV Channels, the State of Odisha has been allocated 5 channels (Ch No. 138 to 142) to offer high quality education content in Odia language. Odisha is one of the participants on DIKSHA and has 5.89 lakh registered users with Learning sessions of 24.28 Cr+ and 271.02 Cr+ Learning minutes.
