

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 4236
ANSWERED ON 01.04.2026

INTERNET CONNECTIONS IN PANCHAYATS

4236 SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to State:

- (a) the number of Gram Panchayats in the country that currently have permanent internet connectivity, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has implemented any scheme or programme to provide internet connectivity to Panchayats and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated and released for this purpose during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (d) if no such scheme exists or where gaps remain, whether Government proposes to introduce new schemes or initiatives to ensure reliable internet connectivity in all Panchayats?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) The Government is committed to strengthening digital infrastructure at the Gram Panchayat (GP) level to enable effective implementation of digital governance tools. All Gram Panchayats are connected to the internet through multiple mediums, including Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) connections and through the services provided by private Internet Service Providers.

Additionally, under the BharatNet Programme, being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications, optical fibre connectivity is being provided to all the Gram Panchayats including the Traditional local bodies (TLBs) in the country to enable high-speed broadband services, including Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) connections.

As per the information available on the BharatNet UNMS dashboard, out of 2.69 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs)/Traditional Local Bodies (TLBs) over 2.18 lakh GPs/ TLBs have been made service-ready. The State/UT-wise details of Service Ready Gram Panchayats are given at **Annexure-I**.

(c) As per the information provided by DoT, funds amounting to ₹ 22,001.30 crore have been disbursed under BharatNet Project during last five financial years (2020-21 to 2024-25). The year-wise and State-wise details are given in **Annexure-II and III**, respectively.

(d) The question does not arise.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply of Part (a) & (b) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 4236 answered on 01.04.2026 regarding 'Internet connections in Panchayats'.

State/UT-wise details of Service Ready Gram Panchayats

S. No.	States/UTs	Total no. of GPs & Equivalents	No. of Service Ready Points*
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	70	81
2	Andhra Pradesh	13327	12972
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2108	1145
4	Assam	2657	1634
5	Bihar	8052	8860
6	Chhattisgarh	11693	9759
7	Goa	191	0
8	Gujarat	14621	14563
9	Haryana	6230	6204
10	Himachal Pradesh	3615	416
11	Jammu & Kashmir	4291	1115
12	Jharkhand	4345	4649
13	Karnataka	5949	6251
14	Kerala	941	1130
15	Ladakh	193	193
16	Lakshadweep	10	9
17	Madhya Pradesh	23011	18106
18	Maharashtra	28002	24778
19	Manipur	3811	1485
20	Meghalaya	7020	697
21	Mizoram	854	539
22	Nagaland	1328	236
23	Odisha	6794	7099
24	Puducherry	108	101
25	Punjab	13236	12807
26	Rajasthan	11071	8997
27	Sikkim	199	54
28	Tamil Nadu	12480	10298
29	Telangana	12760	10926
30	The Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	50	41
31	Tripura	1194	772
32	Uttar Pradesh	57695	47451
33	Uttarakhand	7817	2021
34	West Bengal	3339	2958
	Total	269062	218347

** The data is sourced from the BharatNet UNMS Dashboard, and some Gram Panchayats may have more than one service-ready points.*

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply of Part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 4236 answered on 01.04.2026 regarding 'Internet connections in Panchayats'.

Year-wise details of fund disbursed under BharatNet Project during last five years (2020-21 to 2024-25)

Financial Year	Fund disbursed (Amount in ₹crore)
2020-21	5919.79
2021-22	7510.96
2022-23	1500.00
2023-24	3075.54
2024-25	3995.01
Total	22001.30

Annexure referred to in reply of Part (c) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 4236 answered on 01.04.2026 regarding 'Internet connections in Panchayats'.

**State-wise details of fund disbursed under BharatNet Project during last five years
(2020-21 to 2024-25)**

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UT	Fund disbursed (Amount in ₹crore)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	17.13
2	Andhra Pradesh	1,319.30
3	Assam	114.48
4	Bihar	812.43
5	Chhattisgarh	1,648.85
6	Gujrat (including Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu)	2,110.84
7	Haryana	266.52
8	Himachal Pradesh	146.56
9	Jammu and Kashmir (including Ladakh)	123.89
10	Jharkhand	769.94
11	Karnataka	635.89
12	Kerala	213.35
13	Lakshadweep	0.11
14	Maharashtra (including Goa)	3,400.60
15	Madhya Pradesh	1,040.94
16	NE-I (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura)	96.67
17	NE-II (Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland)	167.50
18	Odisha	765.61
19	Puducherry	7.02
20	Punjab (including Chandigarh)	740.07
21	Rajasthan	991.72
22	Tamil Nadu	986.00
23	Telangana	1,832.22
24	Uttar Pradesh	2,393.46
25	Uttarakhand	107.73
26	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	391.97
27	Centrally disbursed	900.49
	Grand Total	22,001.30

Fund disbursed under Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP) for different packages are included in respective States/UT like amount of Ladakh included in J&K, Amount for Goa and Puducherry included in Karnataka, Amount for Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu included in Madhya Pradesh and Amount for A&N included in West Bengal
