

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 128
ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2026**

PROGRESS OF BHARATNET PROJECT

128 # SHRI TARUN CHUGH:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the implementation framework of the revised BharatNet project has been implemented across the country and if so, the details of State-wise progress achieved under it up to June 2026;
- (b) the details of optical fibre infrastructure developed under the BharatNet project, including the number of connected Gram Panchayats and the expansion of optical fibre network, so far; and
- (c) the measures taken for rapid expansion of indigenous 4G and 5G networks, including the progress achieved therein?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN
REGION
(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 128 FOR 30th JULY, 2026 REGARDING “PROGRESS OF BHARATNET PROJECT”ASKED BY SHRI TARUN CHUGH.

(a): The Amended BharatNet Programme is implemented in the following two models across the country:

- (i) BSNL-led model, which covers 1,67,727 Gram Panchayats in 21 States and 5 Union territories; and
- (ii) State-led model, which covers 97,336 Gram Panchayats in 7 States.

As of 30.6.2026, a total 43,908 km of optical fibre cable have been laid and a total of 13,494 Gram Panchayats have been upgraded under the programme. Details are at **Annex**.

(b): In BharatNet Phases I and II, 6.95 lakh km of optical fibre cable were laid and 2.15 lakh Gram Panchayats were connected across the country.

(c): Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, BSNL provides 4G mobile services across the country by using indigenous 4G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs). The equipment is upgradable to 5G from the technology perspective. As of 30.6.2026, BSNL has installed 97,013 indigenous-technology-based 4G BTSs across the country.

Annex referred to in the reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *128, to be answered on 30th July, 2026

Details of optical fibre cable laid and number of Gram Panchayats upgraded under the Amended BharatNet Programme

S. no.	State / Union territory	Gram Panchayats	Optical fibre cable laid under Amended BharatNet Programme (km)	Gram Panchayats upgraded under Amended BharatNet Programme
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	72	42	62
2	Bihar	8,405	1,788	1,200
3	Himachal Pradesh	3,615	4,119	739
4	Jammu and Kashmir	4,299	930	295
5	Karnataka	6,090	784	344
6	Madhya Pradesh	22,858	10,917	1,728
7	Puducherry	109	382	109
8	Punjab	13,337	3,949	3,069
9	Uttar Pradesh	59,290	13,292	4,010
10	Uttarakhand	7,937	7,222	1,507
11	Other States	1,39,051	483	431
Total		2,65,063	43,908	13,494
