

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1964

ANSWERED ON 05/08/2026

Samagra Shiksha and BharatNet projects in Bihar

1964 # **Dr. Bhim Singh:**

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

- (a) whether Government is taking any special steps to provide high-speed internet and broadband connectivity to rural and remote Government secondary schools in Bihar under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan and BharatNet projects; and
- (b) whether the targets for setting up smart classrooms and computer labs (ICT) in Government schools of Bihar are being met within stipulated time and the concrete plan of Government to connect rural children of the State with digital education and to improve the computer-student ratio?

ANSWER

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

(a): 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 and rural areas by BSNL in a phased manner including remote and rural government secondary schools in Bihar.

(b): Education is part of the Concurrent List of the Constitution and most of the Government schools are under the administration of the State Government. The Ministry of Education implements ICT and Digital initiatives under Samagra Shiksha to enhance digital learning in Government schools across the country, including rural areas of Bihar. The initiatives aim to enhance the quality of education by integrating technology into teaching and learning processes. Under the initiatives, funds are provided for setting up ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms according to the requirements of the State submitted in the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B). States/UTs have flexibility to procure hardware, open-source operating systems, software, training and resource support. These initiatives help in connecting rural children with digital education and in improving the computer-student ratio. Between FY2021-22 to FY2025-26, a total of 19,811 Smart Classrooms and 7,264 ICT Labs were sanctioned, of which 19,181 Smart Classrooms and 7,115 ICT Labs are functional in the State of Bihar.
