

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2109
ANSWERED ON 06th AUGUST, 2026**

AMENDED BHARATNET PROGRAMME IN J&K

2109 SHRI SAT PAUL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the implementation framework of the Amended BharatNet Programme has been operationalised in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the progress achieved until June 2026 thereunder;
- (c) the details of optical fibre infrastructure created under BharatNet, including the number of Gram Panchayats connected and the extent of optical fibre network penetration achieved, so far; and
- (d) the measures undertaken for rapid deployment of indigenous 4G and 5G networks, including the progress achieved thereunder in the UT?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) to (b) The Government of India approved the Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) on 04.08.2023 for the upgradation/creation of network in all 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) across the country using ring topology, including 4,299 GPs in Jammu and Kashmir(J&K). As of 30.6.2026, a total 930 km of optical fibre cable have been laid and a total of 295 GPs have been upgraded under the ABP in J&K.

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

(d) 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, including 2,076 in J&K.
