

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 500
ANSWERED ON 23rd JULY, 2026**

AMENDED BHARATNET PROGRAMME IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

500 SHRI HARSH MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP) being implemented in Himachal Pradesh under the Digital Bharat Nidhi, including the total project cost allocated for the State;
- (b) the Gram Panchayat-wise and block-wise targets fixed for last-mile Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) connectivity to Government institutions such as schools, health centres and anganwadis in the State, along with progress achieved, so far;
- (c) the funds released till date against the sanctioned allocation for Himachal Pradesh, year-wise; and
- (d) the timeline by which the programme is expected to be completed across all Gram Panchayats of the State?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Government of India has approved the Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) on 04.08.2023 for upgradation of all 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) across the country in ring topology, including 3,615 GPs in Himachal Pradesh. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been designated as the Project Management Agency (PMA) for implementation of the program in the State. The total project cost for Himachal Pradesh is Rs. 2,673 crore.
- (b) As on date, a total of 5,167 Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) connections have been provided in the State under ABP, including connectivity to 1,259 Secondary Schools and 244 Primary Health Centres. Separate Gram Panchayat-wise or block-wise targets have not been prescribed for providing last-mile connectivity.
- (c) Funds of Rs. 166.66 crore have been disbursed in Himachal Pradesh under ABP upto 30.06.2026. The financial year-wise details are given in **Annexure-I**.
- (d) Under the ABP, the construction phase is three years from the date of signing of the Agreement with the Project Implementing Agency.

Details of Fund disbursed under Amended BharatNet Programme in Himachal Pradesh	
Financial Year	Fund disbursed (Amount in Rs crores)
2022-23	1.70
2023-24	2.57
2024-25	132.60
2025-26	26.63
2026-27 (upto 30.06.2026)	3.16
Total	166.66
