

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4572
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH MARCH, 2017**

COMMUNITY MODEL OF Wi Fi HOTSPOTS

4572. DR. K. GOPAL:
SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to implement community model of wifi hotspots where users can connect seamlessly in return for payment to the hotspots hosts; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) & (b) Wi-Fi hotspots are proposed to be set up in all the Gram Panchayats in the country, leveraging the infrastructure of BharatNet for provision of services to citizens in rural areas, with funding from USOF.

The following schemes have also been approved from USOF:

- i. Scheme for setting up of 25,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots at rural telephone exchanges of BSNL.
- ii. Wi-Fi Choupals proposed to be set up by Common Service Centre-SPV at 5,000 Gram Panchayats using BharatNet infrastructure.
- iii. Pilot Projects for Wi-Fi services.

Funding for the above stated projects is to be provided from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
