

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2794
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 02.08.2017

IT IN RURAL AREAS

2794. SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:

SHRI GEORGE BAKER:

PROF. RICHARD HAY:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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- (a). the percentage of rural areas across the country, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra;
- (b). the steps taken by the Government in the last three years to connect these rural areas with IT;
- (c). the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised for this during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra;
- (d). the details of the target set and percentage of rural areas connected with IT so far, State/UT-wise; and
- (e). whether the Government is aware of any problem in some of the States in meeting the set targets and if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a): As per Census of India 2011, the rural-urban distribution is 68.86% and 31.14% respectively. The State/UT-wise percentage of rural areas across the country is given in **Annexure-I**. For more details - http://www.dataforall.org/dashboard/censusinfoindia_pca/.

(b) to (d) : The steps taken by the Government in the last three years to connect these rural areas with IT are as follows:

- (i). **BharatNet**: Provisioning of internet connectivity at rural areas is under the purview of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), under Ministry of Communications. DoT is implementing National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, renamed as BharatNet. It has been envisaged to provide 100 Mbps broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.50 lakhs) in the country by using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media. The project is planned to be implemented in three phases: Under first phase of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) are to be connected by laying underground Optical Fibre Cable(OFC) which is under implementation and expected to be completed by November 2017. Under Phase-II, connectivity will be provided to remaining 1.5 lakh GPs in the country using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, and provision of last mile access to the network and broadband service provisioning (through Wi-Fi or

any other broadband access technologies) in all 2,50,000 GPs in the country, which is targeted to be completed by March, 2019. Under third phase, a state-of-the-art network with ring architecture, is planned to be completed by 2023. Till date, Rs. 10,286 Crore have been disbursed from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

Under the BharatNet project (Phase-I Target of 1,24,990 GPs), 2.39 Lakh KMs of pipeline has been laid in 1,06,508 GPs, 2.21 lakhs KMs of optical fibre pulled for 1,00,253 GPs and 24,154 GPs have been connected so far till 16.07.2017. The detailed status of BharatNet project under Phase-I including State of Maharashtra is given in **Annexure-II**.

(ii). National Information Infrastructure (NII): A pilot project on National Information Infrastructure (NII) for a period of one year of operation was initiated by MeitY in July, 2015 for one district each in the States of Nagaland, Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat, Uttarakhand and UT of Chandigarh and Puducherry to integrate various ICT infrastructure namely State Data Centres (SDCs), State Wide Area Network (SWAN), National Knowledge Network (NKN), National Informatics Centre Network (NICNET), State Service Delivery Gateway (SSDG) including National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)/BharatNet created in these States. The objective is to provide connectivity to government offices upto Gram Panchayat (GP) level (1059 GPs). The project was approved with an outlay of Rs. 45.84 crore and fund released till date is 45.84 crore.

(iii). Common Services Centre (CSC): Common Services Centres (CSCs now known as Digital Seva Kendras) are internet enabled centres operated by local entrepreneur, called Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) and provide eServices to rural citizens. CSCs deliver various Government-to-Citizen (G2C), Business-to-Citizen (B2C) services, Aadhaar services, financial inclusion services, Educational services including Digital Literacy, Financial Literacy, Legal Literacy, Skill development services etc. to citizens. For this, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India has approved CSC 2.0 project under Digital India in August, 2015 which envisages setting up of at least one Common Services Centre (CSC) at each Gram Panchayat (GP) level to cover all the 2.5 lakhs GPs across the country, including the 27,920 GPs in the State of Maharashtra. The project is to be completed within 4 years by August, 2019. M/s CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (a CSC Special Purpose Vehicle, CSC -SPV) is implementing the project with active support and participation by the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Nodal Department(s), State Designated Agencies (SDAs), and, the District e-Governance Society (DeGS). The project was approved at a total estimated outlay of Rs. 475.11 Cr and expenditure till date is Rs. 145.00 crore. CSC 2.0 project has no provision for revenue support in the way of viability gap funding. Funds are released to the central implementing agency CSC –SPV.

Till **June, 2017**, 3,00,774 Common Services Centres (CSCs) have been registered across the country, among which, 1,96,922 are at Gram Panchayat (GP) level covering around 1,66,537 GPs out of the target of 2.5 lakhs of GPs. Out of the total registered CSCs, 2,61,071 CSCs are functioning and transacting for delivery of eServices; among which, 1,63,226 CSCs are functioning at GP level. The State/UT-wise CSC roll out status is given in **Annexure-III**.

(iv). Wi-Fi Choupal: The CSC Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC -SPV) launched an initiative on pilot basis called- Wi-Fi Choupal for 5,000 Gram Panchayat (GP), a rural Wi-Fi

service initiative in financial year 2016-17 at the behest of Telecom Commission, Department of Telecommunications, Govt. of India. Wi-Fi Choupal project has been launched to provide Wi-Fi Internet access in rural India through CSCs. As on date, Wi-Fi Infrastructure has been deployed in 2500 GPs across 9 States (Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Bihar, Maharashtra, and Karnataka) and 2 Union Territories (Chandigarh and Puducherry). The activation of the internet service has been done at 650 GP locations.

(e): No such problem has come to the notice of the Government.

Annexure-I

As per 2011 Census, the rural–urban distribution is 68.86% and 31.14% respectively						
S. No.	State	Total Population	Rural Population	Urban Population	%Rural	%Urban
1	Andhra Pradesh (prior to bi-furcation in 2014)	845,80,777	563,61,702	282,19,075	66.63654	33.36346
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13,83,727	10,66,358	3,17,369	77.06419	22.93581
3	Assam	312,05,576	268,07,034	43,98,542	85.90463	14.09537
4	Bihar	1040,99,452	923,41,436	117,58,016	88.70502	11.29498
5	Chhattisgarh	255,45,198	196,07,961	59,37,237	76.75791	23.24209
6	Goa	14,58,545	5,51,731	9,06,814	37.82749	62.17251
7	Gujarat	604,39,692	346,94,609	257,45,083	57.40368	42.59632
8	Haryana	253,51,462	165,09,359	88,42,103	65.12192	34.87808
9	Himachal Pradesh	68,64,602	61,76,050	6,88,552	89.96953	10.03047
10	Jammu & Kashmir	125,41,302	91,08,060	34,33,242	72.62452	27.37548
11	Jharkhand	329,88,134	250,55,073	79,33,061	75.95177	24.04823
12	Karnataka	610,95,297	374,69,335	236,25,962	61.32933	38.67067
13	Kerala	334,06,061	174,71,135	159,34,926	52.2993	47.7007
14	Madhya Pradesh	726,26,809	525,57,404	200,69,405	72.3664	27.6336
15	Maharashtra	1123,74,333	615,56,074	508,18,259	54.7777	45.2223
16	Manipur	28,55,794	20,21,640	8,34,154	70.79082	29.20918
17	Meghalaya	29,66,889	23,71,439	5,95,450	79.93016	20.06984
18	Mizoram	10,97,206	5,25,435	5,71,771	47.88845	52.11155
19	Nagaland	19,78,502	14,07,536	5,70,966	71.1415	28.8585
20	Odisha	419,74,218	349,70,562	70,03,656	83.31439	16.68561
21	Punjab	277,43,338	173,44,192	103,99,146	62.5166	37.4834
22	Rajasthan	685,48,437	515,00,352	170,48,085	75.12987	24.87013
23	Sikkim	6,10,577	4,56,999	1,53,578	74.84707	25.15293
24	Tamil Nadu	721,47,030	372,29,590	349,17,440	51.60239	48.39761
25	Telangana (formed in 2014 only)	-	-	-		0
26	Tripura	36,73,917	27,12,464	9,61,453	73.8303	26.1697
27	Uttar Pradesh	1998,12,341	1553,17,278	444,95,063	77.73157	22.26843
28	Uttarakhand	100,86,292	70,36,954	30,49,338	69.7675	30.2325
29	West Bengal	912,76,115	621,83,113	290,93,002	68.12638	31.87362
	State Total	11907,31,623	8324,10,875	3583,20,748	69.90751	30.09249
	Union Territory					
1	Andaman & Nicobar	3,80,581	2,37,093	1,43,488	62.29764	37.70236
2	Chandigarh	10,55,450	28,991	10,26,459	2.74679	97.25321
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3,43,709	1,83,114	1,60,595	53.27588	46.72412
4	Daman and Diu	2,43,247	60,396	1,82,851	24.82908	75.17092
5	Delhi	167,87,941	4,19,042	163,68,899	2.496089	97.50391
6	Lakshadweep	64,473	14,141	50,332	21.93321	78.06679

As per 2011 Census, the rural–urban distribution is 68.86% and 31.14% respectively						
S. No.	State	Total Population	Rural Population	Urban Population	%Rural	%Urban
7	Puducherry	12,47,953	3,95,200	8,52,753	31.66786	68.33214
	UT Total	201,23,354	13,37,977	187,85,377	6.648877	93.35112
	GRAND TOTAL	12108,54,977	8337,48,852	3771,06,125	68.85621	31.14379

Annexure-II

State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 16.07.2017

S.No.	States/ UTs	No. of Gram Panchayats (GPs)- Phase I	Pipe laid (kms.)	Cable laid (in kms)	No. of GPs where Pipe laid	No. of GPs where Cable laid	GPs Lit
1	Assam	1533	3807	4159	1422	1348	354
2	Bihar	5754	12225	12940	4974	4742	798
3	Chhattisgarh	4104	10267	7898	3310	3164	1293
4.	Haryana	6020	9791	11005	5907	5803	1007
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	388	430	389	214	200	0
6.	Karnataka	6092	11951	12463	6028	6014	4826
7.	Kerala	977	720	830	1129	1129	1129
8.	Madhya Pradesh	12655	35945	31120	12073	11644	3674
9.	Maharashtra	15301	26740	25201	12710	11853	2109
10.	Punjab	8049	9848	9162	6989	6747	806
11.	Rajasthan	8194	21136	20414	7114	7055	1794
12.	Uttar Pradesh	27974	48651	44790	25378	23417	2919
13.	Uttarakhand	1863	2804	2646	1503	1463	464
14.	West Bengal	2637	5208	4882	1830	1792	240
15.	Andaman & Nicobar	69	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Chandigarh	12	18	19	12	12	12
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	863	1558	665	609	227	0
18.	Nagaland	994	2614	1481	831	462	0
19.	Manipur	904	334	236	154	123	26
20.	Mizoram	763	740	448	125	75	0
21.	Tripura	1021	1690	1586	834	810	79
22.	Meghalaya	1208	1213	530	434	194	0
23.	Gujarat	6905	10608	9655	5091	4524	1126
24.	Puducherry	98	82	92	98	98	101
25.	Andhra Pradesh	1673	2642	766	545	283	0
26.	Telangana	2017	4539	4462	2038	2038	220

27.	Odisha	3860	8153	7970	3109	3108	524
28.	Jharkhand	2713	5053	4669	1892	1775	568
29.	Himachal Pradesh	252	517	481	155	153	85
30.	Daman & Diu	15	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Sikkim	52	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Lakshadweep	10	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Goa*	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Grand Total	124990	239285	220959	106508	100253	24154

*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre

ANNEXURE – III

STATE/UT-WISE CSC ROLL OUT STATUS AS ON 30 JUNE, 2017								
S. No.	State	No. of Gram Panchayat (GP)	No. of CSCs Registered including GP	No. of CSCs Registered at GP level	No. of GPs covered with Registered CSC	% coverage of GPs with CSCs	Total No. of Functional CSCs including GP	Total No. of Functional CSCs at GP level
		1	2	3	3.1		4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	12833	5488	3475	3475	27	5212	3119
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1779	115	54	54	3	54	44
3	Assam	2196	2735	2246	1883	86	2213	1559
4	Bihar	8463	22380	17541	8413	99	19090	11960
5	Chhattisgarh	9734	11929	8410	9734	100	11175	7940
6	Goa	189	54	37	37	20	32	30
7	Gujarat	13735	18062	14845	13735	100	16805	13885
8	Haryana	6155	8724	5834	5834	95	7900	4923
9	Himachal Pradesh	3243	2624	2269	2269	70	2552	1952
10	Jammu & Kashmir	4128	2123	1039	1039	25	1727	900
11	Jharkhand	4423	9799	7445	4161	94	9014	5295
12	Karnataka	5628	6564	2665	2665	47	4963	2333
13	Kerala	979	2676	1969	979	100	2119	1111
14	Madhya Pradesh	23012	19446	13175	13175	57	16194	11873
15	Maharashtra	27920	31066	19464	19464	70	25324	17788
16	Manipur	165	646	256	165	100	554	207
17	Meghalaya	1463	262	193	193	13	198	74
18	Mizoram	776	376	316	316	41	316	176
19	Nagaland	1123	232	230	230	20	220	138
20	Odisha	6234	8651	6832	5564	89	6545	5599
21	Punjab	12800	6261	4282	4282	33	5229	3464
22	Rajasthan	9946	30436	15038	9946	100	29814	14878
23	Sikkim	165	37	31	31	19	31	23
24	Tamil Nadu	12618	11069	5773	5773	46	7408	4646
25	Telangana	8787	5564	3180	3180	36	5043	2855
26	Tripura	1038	521	442	442	43	366	322
27	Uttar Pradesh	51914	67054	41675	41675	80	58876	35804
28	Uttarakhand	7555	5594	4441	4441	59	4339	3853
29	West Bengal	3351	17527	13584	3230	96	15653	6330
	State Total	242352	298015	196741	166385	69	258966	163081
	Union Territory							
1	Andaman & Nicobar	69	49	26	24	35	42	20
2	Chandigarh	17	112	29	17	100	65	21
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11	31	16	11	100	21	9
4	Daman and Diu	14	11	2	2	14	8	1
5	Delhi	0	2361	0	0		1854	0
6	Lakshadweep	10	3	3	3	30	2	2

STATE/UT-WISE CSC ROLL OUT STATUS AS ON 30 JUNE, 2017								
S. No.	State	No. of Gram Panchayat (GP)	No. of CSCs Registered including GP	No. of CSCs Registered at GP level	No. of GPs covered with Registered CSC	% coverage of GPs with CSCs	Total No. of Functional CSCs including GP	Total No. of Functional CSCs at GP level
		1	2	3	3.1		4	5
7	Puducherry	98	192	105	95	97	113	92
	UT Total	219	2759	181	152	69	2105	145
	GRAND TOTAL	242571	300774	196922	166537	69	261071	163226