GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 243 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th DECEMBER, 2018

INTERNET SERVICE IN GRAM PANCHAYATS

†243. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been planned to connect every gram panchayat of the country to the internet service;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details including Rajasthan at present;
- (c) the time by which the gram panchayats will be connected with internet;
- (d) whether it is true that internet work is not done smoothly in gram panchayats connected with internet;
- (e) whether the Government has prepared any work plan for its monitoring; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) BharatNet project, to connect by broadband all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Rajasthan is being implemented in a phased manner. As part of BharatNet project, the Last Mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology to access broadband/ internet services, is being implemented at all the GPs in the country. The Wi-Fi network under the project is to provide internet services to average 3 Government Institutions at GP level such as Police Station, Post Office, School, Hospital and through two other Access Points (APs). In all, on an average, 5 Wi-Fi APs are planned for each GP. In Rajasthan, Wi-Fi Services at all the 10,000 (approx.) Gram Panchayats will be provided through Government of Rajasthan/RISL (a PSU of State Government).
- (c) BharatNet is planned to be completed by March 2019.
- (d) No, Madam
- (e) & (f) The following monitoring mechanism is in place to monitor the project:
 - a. Empowered Committee, headed by Secretary, Department of Telecom.
 - b. Steering Committee, headed by Administrator, USOF

Annexure-I

Status of State/UT-wise GPs where broadband connectivity is provided

| Sr. No | State/UT | GPs where Optical Fiber cable laid and equipment installed |
|--------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 1160 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 43 |
| 3 | Andaman & Nicobar | 0 |
| 4 | Assam | 1589 |
| 5 | Bihar | 5865 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 13 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 4052 |
| 8 | Dadar & Nagar Haveli | 21 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 17 |
| 10 | Gujarat | 5113 |
| 11 | Haryana | 6186 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 226 |
| 13 | Jammu & Kashmir | 257 |
| 14 | Jharkhand | 2302 |
| 15 | Karnataka | 6110 |
| 16 | Kerala | 1129 |
| 17 | Madhya Pradesh | 12689 |
| 18 | Maharashtra | 15126 |
| 19 | Manipur | 248 |
| 20 | Meghalaya | 122 |
| 21 | Mizoram | 19 |
| 22 | Nagaland | 86 |
| 23 | Odisha | 3470 |
| 24 | Puducherry | 101 |
| 25 | Punjab | 7903 |
| 26 | Rajasthan | 8447 |
| 27 | Sikkim | 14 |
| 28 | Telangana | 2047 |
| 29 | Tripura | 527 |
| 30 | Uttar Pradesh | 27940 |
| 31 | Uttarakhand | 1508 |
| 32 | West Bengal | 2081 |
| | Total | 116411 |
