

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3581
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND JANUARY, 2019**

NON-FUNCTIONING OF NETWORK UNDER BHARAT-NET PROJECT

3581. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received field reports regarding non-functioning of network under Bharat-Net Project in 80-90% of the gram panchayats of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent under-utilisation or non-utilisation of the said network and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has instructed the CMDs of BSNL and BBNL to submit daily progress reports to the Telecom Secretary, Government of India, starting 5th November, 2018 and if so, the details of the daily progress reports received by Telecom Secretary till date?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) No, Madam. BharatNet is being implemented to connect all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) by broadband. Out of a total of around 2.5 lakh GPs, 1.22 lakh (approx.) GPs are connected with OFC and 1,16,590 GPs are Service Ready.

Network is being monitored through Network Operating Centre (NOC) and its reports are being monitored on a regular basis.

For effective maintenance and utilisation of the BharatNet network, the following steps have been taken:

- (i) To ensure better utilization of BharatNet, a Wi-Fi network is being set up under the project. On an average, 5 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) are being set up at each GP. Of these, 3 will cater to Government institutions such as schools, hospitals and police stations, and 2 will be available for citizens. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 39,379 GPs and of these, services are being provided in 10,943 GPs, catering to more than 11.17 lakh subscribers with a data usage of over 62 TB per month.
- (ii) Further, a total of 1,00,047 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided from BharatNet network. States are connecting State Wide Area Network (SWAN) with BharatNet.
- (iii) Daily reports are being sought from BSNL & BBNL and as on 28.12.2018, a total of 51 OLTs are not functioning, i.e. around 1% of the total OLTs.
