

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.645
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019**

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

645. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that despite its campaign of Digital India, several villages in the country do not possess internet connectivity and the ones which possess, have extremely poor internet speeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of villages which do not have internet connectivity in the country, especially in Rajasthan, State-wise and district-wise;
- (d) the expected time limit by which each and every village in the country is expected to get high-speed internet connectivity; and
- (e) the measures being taken to improve the poor internet speed provided to the villages?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) There are 21.76 rural internet Subscribers per 100 population in the country as per "The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators" report published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Licensed Service Area wise details of the rural internet subscribers per 100 population as on 30th September 2018 is at **Annexure-I**. The National Digital Communications Policy -2018 has been notified with strategic objectives which inter-alia includes provisioning of Broadband for All.

Internet speed inter-alia depends on various parameters such as technology deployed, network coverage, number of simultaneous users accessing the internet, connectivity to the website being accessed. The speed of mobile internet is further dependent on a number of factors such as distance from the Base Transceiver Station (BTS) serving the customer, the number of simultaneous users being served by the BTS, the traffic handled by the BTS etc. As such, the mobile users may experience different speeds at different location and time of usage.

(c) In Rajasthan, under BharatNet project, as on 27.01.2019 out of 9891 Gram Panchayats (GPs), 8466 GPs are service ready. District wise status of GPs in Rajasthan is at **Annexure -II**.

(d) & (e) Coverage for all villages is being done in a phased manner, with the following initiatives:

- (i) Under BharatNet Project, broadband connectivity to all the GPs (approx. 2.5 Lakh) in the country including Rajasthan is being implemented in a phased manner. Phase -I of BharatNet for connecting 1 lakh GPs in the country has been completed in December 2017. As on 27.01.2019, a total of 1,23,489 GPs have been connected by laying 3,10,097 km underground OFC and 1,16,876 GPs have been made service ready. State/UT wise status of GPs is at **Annexure III**.
- (ii) 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 provided at all the GPs in the country. Every GP is being provided with, on an average, 5 Access Points (APs), i.e. 2 APs at Public places and 3 APs at Government Institutions such as schools, hospitals, post offices, police stations, etc. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 41139 GPs and of these, services are being provided in 10883 GPs. State/UT wise details of Wi-Fi hotspots is at **Annexure IV**.
- (iii) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme for setting up of 25,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots (which includes 1645 in Rajasthan) using infrastructure of telephone exchanges of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in rural areas.
- (iv) Cabinet has approved a proposal for providing mobile connectivity in inhabited and uncovered villages at 4072 tower locations identified by Ministry of Home Affairs in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas in 10 States in Phase-II.

Service Area wise no. of rural internet subscribers per 100 population at the end of September-2018

S.No.	Licenced Service Areas	No. of Rural Internet Subscribers per 100 population
1	Andhra Pradesh	27.00
2	Assam	18.81
3	Bihar	14.94
4	Delhi	98.79
5	Gujarat	27.90
6	Haryana	27.38
7	Himachal Pradesh	43.67
8	Jammu & Kashmir	26.23
9	Karnataka	27.67
10	Kerela	33.15
11	Madhya Pradesh	14.89
12	Maharashtra	28.10
13	Mumbai	
14	North East	25.84
15	Orissa	21.63
16	Punjab	37.39
17	Rajasthan	24.43
18	Tamil Nadu	42.61
19	UP (East)	15.38
20	UP (West)	
21	Kolkata	17.90
22	West Bengal	
	Total	21.76

District-wise details of service ready GPs under BharatNet project in Rajasthan

S. No.	District	Service Ready GPs
1	Ajmer	256
2	Alwar	477
3	Banswara	109
4	Baran	191
5	Barmer	186
6	Bharatpur	368
7	Bhilwara	395
8	Bikaner	260
9	Bundi	177
10	Chittorgarh	274
11	Churu	258
12	Dausa	222
13	Dholpur	96
14	Dungarpur	94
15	Hanumangarh	257
16	Jaipur	523
17	Jaisalmer	84
18	Jalore	278
19	Jhalawar	258
20	Jhunjhunu	309
21	Jodhpur	313
22	Karauli	208
23	Kota	159
24	Nagaur	473
25	Pali	323
26	Pratapgarh	110
27	Rajsamand	208
28	Sikar	346
29	Sirohi	156
30	Sriganganagar	248
31	Swaimadhampur	202
32	Tonk	233
33	Udaipur	415
	Total	8466

Annexure-III

State/UT wise status of service ready GPs under BharatNet project

S. No	State/UT	Service Ready GPs (Including BHQs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	12730
2	Arunachal Pradesh	43
3	Assam	1601
4	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0
5	Bihar	5869
6	Chandigarh	13
7	Chhattisgarh	4058
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	21
9	Daman & Diu	17
10	Gujarat	5162
11	Haryana	6186
12	Himachal Pradesh	226
13	Jammu & Kashmir	264
14	Jharkhand	2345
15	Karnataka	6111
16	Kerala	1129
17	Lakshadweep	0
18	Madhya Pradesh	12693
19	Maharashtra	15126
20	Manipur	265
21	Meghalaya	122
22	Mizoram	30
23	Nagaland	88
24	Odisha	3501
25	Puducherry	101
26	Punjab	7936
27	Rajasthan	8466
28	Sikkim	14
29	Tamil Nadu	0
30	Telangana	2047
31	Tripura	527
32	Uttar Pradesh	28011
33	Uttarakhand	1508
34	West Bengal	2123
	Total	116876

Annexure-IV

The State/UT wise detail of Wi-Fi hotspots provided in GPs under BharatNet

S. No	State/UT	No. of GPs where Wi-Fi hotspots installed	No. of GPs where Wi-Fi services are being provided
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0
4	Assam	0	0
5	Bihar	289	124
6	Chandigarh	12	7
7	Chhattisgarh	393	349
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	0	0
10	Gujarat	0	0
11	Haryana	271	225
12	Himachal Pradesh	165	77
13	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0
14	Jharkhand	355	109
15	Karnataka	2209	1495
16	Kerala	701	701
17	Lakshadweep	0	0
18	Madhya Pradesh	1316	405
19	Maharashtra	871	856
20	Manipur	161	5
21	Meghalaya	0	0
22	Mizoram	0	0
23	Nagaland	0	0
24	Odisha	90	68
25	Puducherry	81	75
26	Punjab	0	0
27	Rajasthan	8661	3647
28	Sikkim	0	0
29	Tamil Nadu	0	0
30	Telangana	0	0
31	Tripura	0	0
32	Uttar Pradesh	25211	2461
33	Uttarakhand	353	279
34	West Bengal	0	0
	Total	41139	10883
