GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5021 ANSWERED ON 23.07.2019

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES IN PANCHAYATS

†5021. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

whether the Government is implementing any scheme to ensure adequate infrastructural facilities to the Panchayats in Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

'Panchayat' being a State subject, providing infrastructure facilities to the Panchayats is primarily the responsibility of the States/UTs. However, the following programmes are also being implemented for providing adequate infrastructural facilities to Panchayats including state of Maharashtra by the Government of India:

- (i) Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) grants are provided to the Gram Panchayats (GPs) for infrastructure and basic services such as roads, drainage, footpaths, water supply, street lighting, sanitation, maintenance of community assets, cremation and burial grounds, etc. Rs.9,767.4 crores as FFC grants has already been released to Panchayats of Maharashtra.
- (ii) Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) under the restructured scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) being implemented with effect from 2018-19, is providing financial support for certain infrastructural facilities for GPs such as Gram Panchayat Bhawans, computers and peripherals. Under RGSA Rs. 11.54 crore has been released for Maharashtra Panchayats during 2018-19.
- (iii) Implementation of computerization of GPs is being done under various programmes such as RGSA, FFC, etc. An estimated 26,950 Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra have computers at present.

- (iv) Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, is implementing the BharatNet project to provide broadband connectivity to all GPs of the country. Phase-I of the project to connect one lakh GPs has been completed in December, 2017. Under Phase-II, the remaining around 1,50,000 GPs are being covered through an optimal mix of media such as Optic Fibre Cable, Radio and Satellite, through States, Private Sector and Central Public Sector Undertakings. Currently, total of 15,173 Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra are service ready.
- (v) Towards provision of online services in the rural areas and GPs, Common Service Centres (CSCs) have been setup through a 'Common Service Centre Special Purpose Vehicle' (CSC-SPV), a society of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The key objective of CSCs is to deliver various citizen centric services, such as Government to Citizen (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) services, financial inclusion services, educational services, skill development services etc.
