WI-FI ACCESS POINTS

2346. DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of Wi-Fi Access Points (Public Data Offices) that have been set up in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu under Prime Minister’s Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) framework;

(b) the details of the progress made under the PM-WANI scheme;

(c) the manner in which the scheme helped the Government in its e-Governance initiative and also in increasing the internet penetration in rural areas of the country; and

(d) the extent to which the said scheme helped the Government’s effort in the above fields, block and State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

(a) As on 09-03-2023, 15374 and 7412 Wi-Fi hotspots have been deployed under PM-WANI framework in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu respectively.

(b) PM-WANI framework was launched on 09.12.20. Meticulous efforts have been made to popularise PM-WANI. As on 09-03-2023, 1,47,764 Wi-Fi hotspots have been deployed under PM WANI framework in the country.

(c) & (d) PM WANI framework aims to accelerate proliferation of internet services by setting up public Wi-Fi Access points in the country with the objective of building digital India, bridging digital divide and consequential benefit thereon.

State/ Union Territory (UT) wise number of hotspots under PM WANI framework as on 09-03-2023, is attached as Annexure. The block wise details are not maintained.
Annexure

Annexure referred to in Reply to Part (c) & (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2346 to be answered on 15.03.2023.

The State/UT wise number of hotspots under PM WANI framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/UT</th>
<th>Total WI-FI Hotspots</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andaman &amp; Nicobar</td>
<td>246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>6057</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>598</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>856</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>3767</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
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<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>2796</td>
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<td>Delhi</td>
<td>40521</td>
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<td>Goa</td>
<td>422</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>4036</td>
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<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>3739</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</td>
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<td>Karnataka</td>
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<td>Telangana</td>
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<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tripura</td>
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<td>Uttarakhand</td>
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<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>8234</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>3845</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>147764</strong></td>
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