

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3652  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**OPTICAL FIBRE IN MALDA**

**3652. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of villages in Malda Town and Malda North of West Bengal that have been connected by optical fibre; and
- (b) the time taken to connect all the villages of the said district with optical fibre?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) & (b) Sir, 431 villages and 109 Gram Panchayats (GPs) of Malda district have been connected/ service ready on optical fibre under BharatNet project. The scope of BharatNet has been extended to connect all villages including GPs. All remaining GPs and villages are planned to connect with optical fibre under BharatNet saturation project. The timeline for completion of BharatNet project is 2025.

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