

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4673  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**INTERNET CONNECTIVITY TO ALL GPS**

**4673. SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several targets were set under National Digital Communication Policy (NDCP)-2018 including broadband for all, the creation of 40 lakh jobs, 10 Gbps internet connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) by the year 2022;
- (b) if so, the details of the total works targeted under the scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh along with the present status thereof including the expenditure and funds allocated thereon;
- (c) the details of the total posts sanctioned, lying vacant and filled in the field of digital communication since 2018, year-wise; and
- (d) the total percentage of the GPs having availed the 10 Gbps connectivity and the citizens having availed the broadband services?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Several targets were set under the National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) – 2018. The policy inter-alia aims to provide universal broadband connectivity at 50Mbps to every citizen, connectivity to all uncovered areas, train 1 Million manpower for building New Age Skill, expand IoT ecosystem to 5 Billion connected devices, establish a comprehensive data protection regime for digital communications that safeguards the privacy, autonomy and choice of individuals and facilitates India's effective participation in the global digital economy, and enforce accountability through appropriate institutional mechanisms to assure citizens of safe and secure digital communications infrastructure and services.
- (b) & (c) National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) – 2018 is not a scheme, but a policy document which does not have a separately sanctioned head under budget. Various initiatives taken by the Government in line with the NDCP 2018 policy to strengthen the Telecom Sector Ecosystem have boosted the economic activity such as e-commerce, telecom manufacturing & operations, cable TV operations, etc. in the country including Andhra Pradesh. This has resulted in creating several job opportunities.
- (d) As on Feb 2023, BharatNet has been extended in 71% Gram Panchayats with 100 mbps/ 1 Gbps capacity. However, the same can be upgraded to 10 Gbps as per the requirement.

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