

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4677
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH MARCH, 2023**

FEATURES OF BHARATNET

4677. DR. SANGHMITRA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the features of the BharatNet Project;
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under this project in Uttar Pradesh (UP) during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of the number of villages connected with broadband facility under this project within UP;
- (d) whether the Government has the data of villages still not connected with this facility within UP and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government for expeditiously cover these villages under this scheme?

ANSWER

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

- (a) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized to provide broadband services, such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc. in the rural areas.
- (b) Rs 1286.97 crore has been sanctioned/allocated and utilised during the last four years (including the current year) in Uttar Pradesh under BharatNet project.
- (c) to (e) In Uttar Pradesh, out of the total 59,365 GPs, 41,512 GPs have been made Service Ready under the BharatNet Project. Union Cabinet has accorded in principle approval for extending BharatNet to connect all inhabited villages (including remaining 17,853 GPs of Uttar Pradesh). Following steps have been taken by the Government for expeditiously covering the remaining GPs and villages in the country, including Uttar Pradesh:
 - i. Strict monitoring of the project at various levels by Universal Service Obligation Fund, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited/ Bharat Broadband Network Limited with implementing Agencies for speedy roll out of the project.
 - ii. Resolving all pending issues in expeditious manner.
 - iii. Revised strategy has been formulated for covering all GPs and villages for connecting on OFC, O&M and utilization.
