

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3305  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**SIZE OF THE OPTICAL FIBER INDUSTRY**

**3305. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present size of the Optical Fiber Industry market in the country including its Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR);
- (b) whether Domestic and Foreign Investments have been made during the last decade and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has implemented or proposed any initiatives to invest in Research and Development (R&D) and domestic high-tech manufacturing specifically related to Digital Connectivity and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the goals, objectives along with the recent accomplishments of the BharatNet Yojana?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) As per the information received from industry associations, the present capacity of Optical fiber industry in India is 100 million Fiber Km with a market size of approximately Rs 7,000 crore (Year 2019) and the Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) is 6-8%.
- (b) Domestic investments in optical fiber industry is approximately Rs 5,000 crores while foreign investment is approximately Rs 600 Crore in last 10 years.
- (c) The Government has taken several steps for Research and Development (R&D) and domestic high-tech manufacturing specifically related to Digital Connectivity:
  - (i) Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme was launched on 24.02.2021 to promote domestic manufacturing of specified telecom and networking products including 4G, 5G products and design-led manufacturing in the country. Total 42 Beneficiaries have been approved under the scheme. As on 30.06.2023, cumulative investment is Rs 2231 crore and sales is Rs 28725 crore out of which exports is Rs 7,165 crore and employment generation of 16410.
  - (ii) Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) has been launched from 01.10.2022 under which 5% of annual collections under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is allocated for promotion of Research and Development (R&D) and commercialization of technologies

- (iii) Digital Communications Innovation Square (DCIS) was launched to promote and support translation of innovative ideas and knowledge by Start-ups/MSMEs in engineering derived from fundamental or applied research into pilot scale operation, field deployment or viable technology development (product or process) within a definite time frame. The beneficiaries are working in technologies such as backhaul radio and communication technologies, Long Term Evolution (LTE) Advanced, 5G and future generation access technologies etc.
- (d) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. As on 30-06-2023, a total of 6,43,450 Kms Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) has been laid and 1,94,909 Gram Panchayats (GPs) are Service Ready. The scope and strategy of BharatNet project has been revised with an outlay of Rs 1.39 lakh crore and scope to cover all inhabited villages.

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