

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3430
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH AUGUST, 2023**

OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES IN JHARKHAND

3430. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the optical fibre cables laid in Jharkhand especially in Santhal Pargana so far along with the total cost of the project and the funds allocated therefor;
- (b) the timeline fixed for achieving the remaining target;
- (c) the details of the number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand that have been connected with broadband and Wi-Fi hotspots so far; and
- (d) the reasons for a number of GPs not being connected to the said services in Jharkhand especially in Santhal Pargana so far?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) In Jharkhand, BharatNet is being implemented by the State Government under State led Model. BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs). The Project cost of BharatNet Phase-I & II is Rs. 42068 crore. As on 30.06.2023, a sum of Rs. 968.34 crore has been disbursed under BharatNet Project for Jharkhand. Optical Fibre cable laid in Jharkhand under BharatNet as of June 2023 is 16,745 km including 3788 km Optical Fibre cable laid in Santhal Pargana. Out of the total 1051 Gram Panchayats (GPs) (including Block headquarter) in Santhal Pargana consisting of 6 districts namely Deogarh, Dumka, Godda, Jamtara, Pakur and Sahebganj, 1007 Gram Panchayats (GPs) are service ready. Further, Broadband connections have been provided in 89 Gram Panchayats (GPs) and WiFi has been installed in 40 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Santhal Pargana.
