

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1677
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2023**

BHARATNET PROJECT

**1677. SHRI L.S. TEJASVI SURYA:
SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:
SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made new projects with regard to BharatNet;
- (b) whether the Government have analysed the target and fiscal achievement of BharatNet, if so, the details thereof along with the progress made thereunder, State-wise;
- (c) the specifics of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the project since the launch of the project, State-wise particularly the district of Kalahandi and Nuapada in Odisha, districts of Chatra, Latehar and Palamu in Jharkhand;
- (d) the number of villages/Gram Panchayats(GPs) connected under the project till date, State/districts-wise;
- (e) the estimated timeline for connecting the remaining villages/GPs under the project; and
- (f) the details of the standards set for fiber cables under BharatNet project?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) Under BharatNet Phase-I&II around 2 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made service ready during the last ten years. Further, Rs. 40,000 crore (approx.) have been disbursed. Government has amended the BharatNet Program as follows:

- (i) Upgradation of existing BharatNet network.
- (ii) Focus on utilization of the network through BharatNet Udyamis i.e. village level entrepreneurs.
- (iii) Operation and Maintenance of the entire network through professional agencies for ten years.
- (iv) Dedicated Network Operation centre.
- (v) Expanding scope to connect all inhabited villages.
- (vi) To provide 1.5 crore home fibre connections.

The information regarding State/UT wise funds allocated and BharatNet Status State/districts wise is available on DoT website.

(f) Optical Fibre Cable with specifications in line with best practices of industry has been used in BharatNet.
