

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1712  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

**BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY TO GRAM PANCHAYATS**

**†1712. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:  
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR:  
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the objective of providing Broadband connectivity to the Gram Panchayats in Bihar under the BharatNet Project has been achieved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Under BharatNet Phase-I&II, more than 2 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made service ready during the last ten years, including all 8,340 GPs in Bihar State. Recently, the government has amended the BharatNet Program to cover all the inhabited villages at an outlay of Rs. 1.88 Lakhs crores 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.

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