GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2627
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2019

INTERNET SPEED AND QUALITY

2627. SHRI DEVUSINH JESINGHBHAI CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the average internet speed in the country is poor and the country ranked 105th in the world in terms of internet connectivity speed and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b)   whether the number of internet users in the country is expected to reach about 500 million by the year end and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c)   whether the Government will launch next generation communication satellites to provide high quality internet and phone service in the country and if so, the details thereof and the time by which these satellites are likely to be launched; and

(d)   the increase in internet speed that is expected after the launch and operationalisation of these satellites?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a)   As per the worldwide country rankings released by cable.co.uk, India has been ranked 74th out of 207 countries in 2019. As per Akamai's (an international agency) Quarter 1, 2017 report on "The State of Internet", India with an average internet speed of 6.5 Mbps has a global rank of 89.

Internet speed depends on various parameters such as technology deployed, network coverage, number of simultaneous users accessing the internet, connectivity to the website being accessed etc. The speed of mobile internet is further dependent on a number of factors such as distance from Base Transceiver Station (BTS) serving the customer, the number of simultaneous users being served by the BTS, the traffic handled by the BTS etc.

(b)   As per "The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators" report released by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 01st October 2019 for the period April-June,2019, there were total 665.31 million internet subscribers in the country. The service area wise internet penetration in the country as on 30th June, 2019 is enclosed as **Annexure.**

(c) & (d)   New generation High Throughput Satellites (HTS) are launched to provide broadband connectivity for internet, BharatNet, VSAT services and also phone connectivity to remote areas. Three satellites namely GSAT-19, GSAT-11 and GSAT-29 are already launched and GSAT-20 is scheduled for launch during Quarter-2, 2020.

GSAT-19, GSAT-11 and GSAT-29 together provide 25 Gbps throughput and GSAT-20 will provide 48 Gbps.

Licensed service area wise number of internet penetration (Internet Subscribers per 100 population) in the country as on 30th June, 2019

Service Area	Internet Subscribers (in million)			No. of Internet subscribers per 100 population		
	Rural	**Urban**	**Total**	**Rural**	**Urban**	**Total**
Andhra Pradesh	20.95	30.95	51.90	32.17	121.82	57.33
Assam	6.05	6.26	12.32	21.66	110.38	36.62
Bihar	24.01	17.63	41.64	19.55	88.81	29.19
Delhi	0.71	36.38	37.09	93.97	160.81	158.64
Gujarat	11.64	29.77	41.41	30.93	105.12	62.78
Haryana	5.78	9.58	15.36	32.32	88.09	53.42
Himachal Pradesh	3.31	2.04	5.36	51.86	230.24	73.60
Jammu & Kashmir	2.65	4.30	6.95	28.91	117.42	54.20
Karnataka	12.40	29.85	42.25	32.22	116.57	65.92
Kerala	10.40	14.95	25.34	38.20	163.12	69.66
Madhya Pradesh	16.48	26.78	43.26	21.13	88.28	39.93
Maharashtra	20.82	34.36	55.18	34.65	96.40	65.36
Mumbai	1.28	26.50	27.78			
North East	2.87	4.20	7.07	26.87	112.38	49.01
Orissa	10.32	6.49	16.82	29.03	81.17	38.61
Punjab	7.25	16.79	24.04	41.69	114.84	75.11
Rajasthan	16.51	21.64	38.15	28.66	116.77	50.11
Tamil Nadu	11.99	34.97	46.96	44.86	76.68	64.92
UP (East)	24.51	23.41	47.92	20.11	79.75	34.01
UP (West)	12.55	21.26	33.81			
Kolkata	1.55	14.73	16.28	22.79	102.73	45.91
West Bengal	14.23	14.21	28.43			
Total	**238.26**	**427.05**	**665.31**	**26.57**	**101.63**	**50.52**

*Population data/projections are available state-wise only.

Notes: 1. Number of total internet subscribers per 100 population is derived from the subscriber data provided by the operators and the population projections of the country, published by the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.

2. Data/information for Andhra Pradesh includes Telengana, Madhya Pradesh includes Chhatishgarh, Bihar includes Jharkhand, Maharashtra includes Goa, Uttar Pradesh includes Uttarakhand, West Bengal includes Sikkim and North-East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura states

****