

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2144  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**INTERNET FACILITY IN PANCHAYATS**

**2144. SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBAJIRAO MANE:  
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:  
SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided Internet facility in the panchayats to extend the benefits of communication and information technology to the people living in rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds released and utilised in this respect during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the total number of people who were benefited through the facility during the said period, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

(a) & (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As part of BharatNet project, the Last Mile Connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband access technology is to be provided in all the Gram Panchayats.

In the 1.23 lakh GPs (approx.) of BharatNet Phase-I, the provisioning of Wi-Fi Services has been assigned to Government of Rajasthan, CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (a Special Purpose Vehicle under Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology), etc. In the 1407 GPs of BharatNet Phase-II, the provisioning of connectivity over satellite media, along with Wi-Fi services, has been assigned to BSNL.

As on 24.02.2020, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed in 45,769 Gram Panchayats (GPs) and out of them, services are being provided in 18,683 GPs.

(c) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has disbursed Rs 5600 Crore, Rs. 6000 Crore, and Rs. 4145.54 Crore to Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) during 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 respectively, and the details of the State/UT-wise funds released /utilised by BBNL in this respect during each of the last three years, are given in **Annex-I**. Further, the details of the State/UT-wise funds, directly released by USOF, are given in **Annex-II**

(d) The details of the State/UT-wise active subscribers of Wi-Fi services under BharatNet project are given in **Annex-III**.

**Annex-I**

Annexure referred to in Part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2144 for Answer on 04.03.2020.

**Funds released/utilised by BBNL for the BharatNet during last three years**

S.No.	State	Year 2016-17	Year 2017-18	Year 2018-19
1	Andaman & Nicobar	18464332	1600000	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	28257523
3	Arunachal Pradesh	176787282.9	139671853	0
4	Assam	891768154	121022896	111147297
5	Bihar	1900995444	452279258	1025139872
6	Chhattisgarh	2412033156	1009457086	2473436121
7	Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	1297999723	743049756	2566552474
8	Haryana	906575955	1514305607	97260991
9	Himachal Pradesh	525127700	0	5631310
10	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	423750351	39011100	4573254
11	Jharkhand	813945657	96710822	768583039
12	Karnataka	12490077	2738336877	502688665
13	Kerala	259560814	125084405	128586308
14	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	4519556872	2382297311	752740055
16	Maharashtra	5851859025	2439577323	3970879360
17	Manipur	185186215.2	146307480	0
18	Meghalaya	247461225.6	195508225	0
19	Mizoram	132129545.2	123487397	0
20	Nagaland	203622895.9	160873490	0
21	Odisha	1158064960	137598146	667823793
22	Puducherry	22342903	5316342	7532036
23	Punjab	2362941194	127721902	826997606
24	Rajasthan	1624698933	1466179320	673987717
25	Sikkim	432268500	0	0
26	Tamil Nadu	0	1106410000	0
27	Telangana	82389383	11999999	51676013
28	Tripura	209153900.2	165243293	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	6353029478	1478805370	0
30	Uttarakhand	1274448954	43693684	50361872
31	West Bengal	1416285784	937578370	132237331
<b>Total</b>		<b>35714938415</b>	<b>17909127313</b>	<b>14846092637</b>
* GPON & OFC		6919075218	1152730518	0
* Ad hoc payment done for BSNL		0	0	8630000000
TCIL		0	0	0
BSNL -VSAT		0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>42634013633</b>	<b>19061857831</b>	<b>23476092637</b>

Annexure referred to in Part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2144 for Answer on 04.03.2020.

**State/UT-wise funds directly released by USOF during the last three years**

Sl. No.	NAME OF STATE/UT/ CCA	Rs. in Crore		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Bihar	2.01	4.41	0.00
4	Chhattisgarh	2.81	5.36	0.00
5	Chandigarh	0.09	0.16	0.00
6	Haryana	0.44	0.83	0.00
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Jharkhand	2.53	4.84	0.00
10	Karnataka	0.46	2.01	0.00
11	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Maharashtra	1.06	2.03	0.00
13	Madhya Pradesh	9.40	17.94	0.00
14	NE-I ( Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram)	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	NE-II (Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh)	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Odisha	0.64	1.23	0.00
17	Puducherry	0.58	1.10	0.00
18	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Uttar Pradesh	13.16	26.25	0.00
20	Uttarakhand	2.52	4.81	0.00
21	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>35.70</b>	<b>70.98</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Annex-III**

Annexure referred to in Part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2144 for Answer on 04.03.2020.

**State/UT-wise active subscribers of Wi-Fi services under BharatNet project**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Active subscribers of Wi Fi services under BharatNet</b>
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	0
5	Bihar	20857
6	Chandigarh	58
7	Chhattisgarh	34008
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
9	Daman & Diu	0
10	Gujarat	0
11	Haryana	65605
12	Himachal Pradesh	311
13	Jammu & Kashmir	0
14	Jharkhand	32582
15	Karnataka	90851
16	Kerala	70036
17	Lakshadweep	0
18	Ladakh	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	104655
20	Maharashtra	50309
21	Manipur	34
22	Meghalaya	0
23	Mizoram	0
24	Nagaland	0
25	Odisha	8365
26	Puducherry	7068
27	Punjab	0
28	Rajasthan	11794
29	Sikkim	0
30	Telangana	0
31	Tripura	0
32	Uttar Pradesh	700021
33	Uttarakhand	70519
34	West Bengal	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>1267073</b>

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