

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 232
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH MARCH, 2021**

INTERNET SERVICES TO REMOTE VILLAGES

*232. SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:
SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has decided to provide internet services to 5000 remote villages using Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) satellites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the villages that have been identified for this purpose, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the time by which these villages will be provided with internet services;
- (d) whether there is no internet facility in remote villages dominated by SC/ST population and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether internet/broadband speed is very slow in remote areas dominated by SC/ST population where internet/broadband facility is available; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and also the efforts made by the Government to overcome this problem?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 232 FOR 10TH MARCH, 2021 REGARDING “INTERNET SERVICES TO REMOTE VILLAGES ”.

(a) to (c) The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has targeted to provide internet connectivity to 5,519 Gram Panchayats (GPs) (4,112 GPs by Bharat Broadband Network Ltd. (BBNL) by November 2021 and 1,407 by BSNL by June 2021) on Satellite Media under BharatNet Project. As on 01.03.2021, 3,587 GPs (BBNL: 2,432 and BSNL: 1,155) have been connected. The State/UT-wise details are at **Annexure-I**.

(d) to (f) High speed internet facility is being provided in rural areas by the Government and the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through 3G/4G mobile connectivity and through wireline connectivity. As per data collected from the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in 2020, it is estimated that out of 5,97,618 inhabited villages (as per Census 2011) in the country, a total number of 5,58,537 villages have 3G or 4G mobile wireless coverage. The services cover the entire population including SCs/ST+s of the area. State/UT wise details are given in **Annexure-II**.

In addition, to improve the internet speed particularly in rural areas, BharatNet project is being implemented to connect all the GPs (approx. 2.5 lakh) by broadband/high speed internet infrastructure in the country. As on 26.02.2021, a total number of 1,54,096 GPs including Block Head Quarters (BHQs) have been made service ready with broadband infrastructure.

Annexure referred to in Part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 232 for Answer on 10.03.2021.

No. of planned and service ready GPs on satellite media as on 01.03.2021

Sl. No.	State	Planned (GPs)			Service ready (GPs)		
		BSNL	BBNL	Total	BSNL	BBNL	Total
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	407	882	1289	203	330	533
2.	Assam	0	5	5	0	0	0
3.	Manipur	0	1219	1219	0	1095	1095
4.	Meghalaya	77	582	659	70	302	372
5.	Mizoram	0	595	595	0	327	327
6.	Nagaland	0	120	120	0	92	92
7.	Sikkim	0	13	13	0	0	0
8.	Tripura	0	142	142	0	137	137
9.	J&K (UT)	613	80	693	588	7	595
10.	Leh (UT)	172	39	211	169	17	186
11.	A&N	0	8	8	0	0	0
12.	Lakshadweep	0	10	10	0	0	0
13.	Bihar	0	16	16	0	0	0
14.	Chhattisgarh	23	5	28	13	0	13
15.	Gujarat	0	23	23	0	0	0
16.	HP	0	159	159	0	118	118
17.	Jharkhand	0	8	8	0	3	3
18.	Maharashtra	0	5	5	0	0	0
19.	MP	33	0	33	30	0	30
20.	Odisha	19	0	19	19	0	19
21.	Punjab	0	4	4	0	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	30	0	30	30	0	30
23.	UP	33	0	33	33	0	33
24.	Uttarakhand	0	175	175	0	0	0
25.	West Bengal	0	3	3	0	0	0
26.	AP	0	15	15	0	0	0
27.	Co-located Gateway	0	4	4	0	4	4
Total		1407	4112	5519	1155	2432	3587

Annexure referred to in Part (d) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 232 for Answer on 10.03.2021.

No. of Villages with 3G/4G Mobile Coverage

Sl. No.	State/UT	No of inhabited villages as per Census 2011	No. of villages high Speed internet Facility(3G or 4G or both Technologies)
1	A&N Islands	396	83
2	Andhra Pradesh	16158	14072
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	2761
4	Assam	25372	24148
5	Bihar	39073	38733
6	Chandigarh	5	5
7	Chhattisgarh	19567	16624
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	84	79
9	Goa	320	279
10	Gujarat	17843	16932
11	Haryana	6642	6641
12	Himachal Pradesh	17882	16934
13	Jammu & Kashmir	6101	5763
14	Jharkhand	29492	27397
15	Karnataka	27397	26705
16	Kerala	1017	1017
17	Ladakh	236	83
18	Lakshadweep	6	4
19	Madhya Pradesh	51929	48366
20	Maharashtra	40959	37572
21	Manipur	2515	1704
22	Meghalaya	6459	3813
23	Mizoram	704	411
24	Nagaland	1400	1057
25	Delhi	103	103
26	Odisha	47677	39546
27	Puducherry	90	90
28	Punjab	12168	12168
29	Rajasthan	43264	41716
30	Sikkim	425	403
31	Tamil Nadu	15049	14939
32	Telangana	10128	9793
33	Tripura	863	802
34	Uttar Pradesh	15745	97049
35	Uttarakhand	97813	13281
36	West Bengal	37478	37464
	Total	5,97,618	5,58,537
