

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2703  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**NATIONAL OPTICAL FIBRE NETWORK**

2703. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:  
SHRI B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA:  
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of length of optical fibre laid down so far under the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) Project and the time by which the target set thereunder will be achieved by the Government;
- (b) the number of Gram Panchayats connected with broadband and WiFi hotspots so far under the said project, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;
- (c) the number of Gram Panchayats in Karnataka that are not yet connected under the said project, district-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) BharatNet project (earlier known as National Optical Fiber Network) is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country, including Karnataka. As on 26.02.2021, a total of 5,05,462 km Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid under this project in the country.

The BharatNet project was envisaged to be completed by August 2021. However, this time will now be extended as the pace of completion is affected by lockdown and restrictions on movement imposed by the various Governments due to COVID-19.

- (b) The State/UT-wise details are given in **Annexure-I**.
- (c) In Karnataka, only 4 Gram Panchayats are pending in Kalburgi (Gulbarga) District.

**Annexure-I**

Annexure referred to in Part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2703 for answer on 10.03.2021  
**State/UT-wise Status of Service Ready GPs (Including Block Headquarters) under BharatNet and GPs with Wi-Fi hotspots**

S. No.	State/UT	Service Ready GPs (Including Block Headquarters)	No. of GPs where Wi-Fi hotspots installed
1	Andhra Pradesh	1707	1570
2	Arunachal Pradesh	621	208
3	Andaman & Nicobar	8	0
4	Assam	1627	0
5	Bihar	8821	5345
6	Chandigarh	13	12
7	Chhattisgarh	7246	3664
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	39	41
9	Gujarat	13391	3755
10	Haryana	6203	5953
11	Himachal Pradesh	370	254
12	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	1174	1138
13	Jharkhand	3597	2381
14	Karnataka	6247	5358
15	Kerala	1129	1047
16	Lakshadweep	0	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	14949	10888
18	Maharashtra	18954	10960
19	Manipur	1421	161
20	Mizoram	368	0
21	Meghalaya	494	70
22	Nagaland	219	0
23	Odisha	5633	2514
24	Puducherry	101	81
25	Punjab	12795	7891
26	Rajasthan	8967	8124
27	Sikkim	28	0
28	Tamil Nadu	0	0
29	Telangana	2047	1997
30	Tripura	732	463
31	Uttar Pradesh	31229	26897
32	Uttarakhand	1536	1251
33	West Bengal	2430	1377
<b>Total</b>		<b>154096</b>	<b>103400</b>

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