

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1566
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th JULY, 2021**

BHARATNET PROJECT IN CHHATTISGARH

†1566. SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of BharatNet project throughout the country;
- (b) its present status of implementation of the said project in Durg parliamentary constituency and other districts of Chhattisgarh; and
- (c) whether there has been any delay in the implementation of the project in the aforesaid areas and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. The scope of BharatNet has been extended recently upto all inhabited villages beyond GPs. As on 02.07.2021, a total number of 1,57,383 Gram Panchayats have been made Service Ready under the Project.
- (b) In Chhattisgarh, the implementation of BharatNet Phase-I has already been completed and BharatNet Phase-II is being implemented by the State Government under State-led model. The District-wise details of Chhattisgarh, including Durg parliamentary constituency (namely Durg and Bemetara Districts) are given in **Annexure-I**.
- (c) The implementation of BharatNet Phase-II in Chhattisgarh under the State-led model is delayed. Long time taken in obtaining Right of Way (RoW) permissions, difficult terrain and issues in carrying out work in the State's Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas have also impacted the project progress. Since March 2020, pursuant to lockdown and movement restrictions due to COVID-19, the progress of the project has been further adversely affected.

For expediting the implementation of the project, close monitoring by Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) is being done, and regular review meetings are held with the State Government/Implementing Agency. Further, State Level Implementation Committee chaired by Chief Secretary of the State has also been constituted to monitor the progress of the project and to resolve the issues in a timely manner.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in Part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1566 for answer on 28.07.2021

District-wise status of BharatNet project in Chhattisgarh (as on 02.07.2021)

S. No.	District	No. of Service Ready GPs (including Block Headquarters)
1	Balod	331
2	Baloda Bazar	419
3	Balrampur	345
4	Bastar	239
5	Bemetara	328
6	Bijapur	62
7	Bilaspur	362
8	Dantewada	56
9	Dhamtari	254
10	Durg	283
11	Gariyaband	165
12	Janjgir	502
13	Jashpur	339
14	Kanker	252
15	Kawardha	331
16	Kondagaon	245
17	Korba	229
18	Koriya	166
19	Mahasamund	419
20	Mungeli	299
21	Narayanpur	44
22	Raigarh	448
23	Raipur	337
24	Rajnandgaon	572
25	Surguja	392
26	Sukma	67
27	Surajpur	240
28	Gaurela Pendra Marwahi	134
Total		7860
