

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2683
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH AUGUST, 2021**

BHARATNET PROJECT AND NOFN

2683. SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of BharatNet project along with the date when it was launched;
- (b) whether the said project is an extension of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) which was launched in 2011;
- (c) the details of the States where all Gram Panchayats have already been linked with broadband connectivity under the BharatNet project;
- (d) the name of States where Gram Panchayats are still to be connected under the project; and
- (e) the funds allocated/released/utilized by the Government thereunder so far?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Union Cabinet on 25.10.2011 approved the setting up of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) which was subsequently renamed as BharatNet.

As on 09.07.2021, by laying 5,30,928 km Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), 1,53,836 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made Service Ready on OFC media. Further, 4083 GPs have been made Service Ready on Satellite media. In total, 1,57,919 GPs have been made Service Ready under the BharatNet project in the country.

(c) & (d) As on 09.07.2021, all the GPs have been made Service Ready in the State/Union Territory (UT) of Kerala and Chandigarh. Further, almost all GPs have been made Service Ready in Haryana, Karnataka, Puducherry, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. The State/UT-wise details of number of planned GPs, Service Ready GPs, and the GPs which are yet to be made Service Ready under BharatNet project, are given in **Annexure-I**.

(e) The State/UT-wise funds allocation is based on the requests received from the Implementing Agencies. As on 31.03.2021, an amount of about Rs. 24,201 crore has been allocated/utilized under BharatNet Project in the country.

Annexure referred to in Parts (c) & (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2683 for answer on 04.08.2021

State/UT-wise details of BharatNet project (as on 09.07.2021)

| S. No. | State/UT | No. of planned GPs | No. of Service Ready GPs | No. of GPs yet to be made Service Ready |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 70 | 21 | 49 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh* | 13371 | 1703 | 11668 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 1796 | 721 | 1075 |
| 4 | Assam | 2662 | 1497 | 1165 |
| 5 | Bihar | 8404 | 8295 | 109 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 12 | 12 | 0 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh* | 11664 | 7870 | 3794 |
| 8 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu | 38 | 36 | 2 |
| 9 | Goa# | 191 | 0 | 191 |
| 10 | Gujarat* | 14402 | 13644 | 758 |
| 11 | Haryana | 6171 | 6082 | 89 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 3226 | 394 | 2832 |
| 13 | Jammu & Kashmir | 4289 | 1001 | 3288 |
| 14 | Jharkhand* | 4395 | 3686 | 709 |
| 15 | Karnataka | 6084 | 6080 | 4 |
| 16 | Kerala | 977 | 977 | 0 |
| 17 | Ladakh | 193 | 186 | 7 |
| 18 | Lakshadweep | 10 | 7 | 3 |
| 19 | Madhya Pradesh | 22791 | 15783 | 7008 |
| 20 | Maharashtra* | 27882 | 19354 | 8528 |
| 21 | Manipur | 2785 | 1436 | 1349 |
| 22 | Meghalaya | 1790 | 598 | 1192 |
| 23 | Mizoram | 763 | 446 | 317 |
| 24 | Nagaland | 994 | 223 | 771 |
| 25 | Odisha* | 6817 | 5913 | 904 |
| 26 | Puducherry | 108 | 98 | 10 |
| 27 | Punjab | 13262 | 12665 | 597 |
| 28 | Rajasthan | 11341 | 8760 | 2581 |
| 29 | Sikkim | 186 | 22 | 164 |
| 30 | Tamil Nadu*\$ | 12520 | 0 | 12520 |
| 31 | Telangana* | 12769 | 4187 | 8582 |
| 32 | Tripura | 1021 | 711 | 310 |
| 33 | Uttar Pradesh | 58710 | 31633 | 27077 |
| 34 | Uttarakhand | 7791 | 1616 | 6175 |
| 35 | West Bengal | 3340 | 2262 | 1078 |
| | Total | 262825 | 157919 | 104906 |

*The Phase-II is being implemented under State-Led model in these States.

\$ Tamil Nadu State Government signed the MoU with Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) on 31.03.2017 for implementation of BharatNet project. Phase-I of BharatNet was accordingly not taken up in Tamil Nadu and the State's GPs are being implemented in Phase-II under State-Led model.

Goa had its own similar broadband network and thus not taken up under Phase-I & Phase-II of BharatNet Project.

Note: Delhi has no GPs and thus not taken up under BharatNet Project.
