

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2890
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021**

BHARATNET SCHEME IN ODISHA

2890. SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of current penetration percentage of mobile internet in rural and urban areas in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the current status of the BharatNet Scheme and the number of beneficiaries;
- (c) the timeline by which Odisha is expected to reach 100% internet coverage; and
- (d) the status of the PM WANI Scheme and the expected number of beneficiaries in the State?

ANSWER

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

(a) As per the Indian Telecom Service Performance Indicators published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 21.10.2021, the number of Internet Subscribers per 100 population (including mobile internet subscribers) in rural and urban areas of Odisha Service Area at the end of June 2021 are as below:

Service Area	No. of Internet subscribers per 100 population		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Odisha	40.61	91.98	50.15

(b) & (c) BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. On 30.06.2021, the scope of BharatNet was extended upto all inhabited villages beyond GPs in the country including Odisha. The target date for completion of the project is August, 2023. As on 30.11.2021, a total number of 1,67,156 GPs are made Service Ready in the country.

In Odisha, the Phase-II is implemented in State-led model through the State Government under which, 2485 GPs have been made Service Ready out of 2,946 planned GPs, as on 30.11.2021. Further, 19 GPs have been made Service Ready out of 43 planned GPs on Satellite media. In Phase-I, a total number of 3810 GPs were taken up for implementation through Powergrid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), out of which 3809 GPs have been made Service Ready. In total, 6,313 GPs have been made Service Ready in Odisha.

The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized to provide benefits of telecom services to the citizens.

(d) Under the PM-WANI framework, Wi-Fi Access Points are set up by small entrepreneurs depending on the market demand with an objective to earn return on their investment. As on 08.12.2021, about 1,150 Access Points have been set up in Odisha.
