

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

**LOKSABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1223  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup>FEBRUARY, 2022**

**OPTICAL FIBRE LAID**

†1223. SHRI JYOTIRMAY SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the optical fibre cable laid in West Bengal so far under National Optical Fibre Network project;
- (b) the details of the number of Gram Panchayats in Purulia district of West Bengal that have been connected with broadband and Wi-Fi hotspot so far under the said project; and
- (c) the reasons for the number of Gram Panchayats not been connected to the said services in abovesaid district of West Bengal under the said project so far?

ANSWER

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

- (a) BharatNet (earlier known as National Optical Fibre Network) project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. As of December 2021, 9303 km Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid under BharatNet project in West Bengal.
- (b) In Phase-I, out of 170 GPs taken up for implementation in Purulia District of West Bengal, 155 GPs have been made Service Ready. Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed in 100 GPs.
- (c) 15 GPs have not been connected in Purulia District due to OFC cuts, Right of Way permission issues, pending Acceptance Testing, etc.

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