

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2022**

PHASE I & II OF BHARATNET

124. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of Phase I and Phase II of the BharatNet project, State/UT-wise with the number of Gram Panchayats covered so far, State/UT-wise including Bihar;
- (b) whether the Government has fixed a timeline by which all the Gram Panchayats will be provided with Broadband connectivity and if so, the details in this regard, State/UT-wise including Bihar;
- (c) whether the BharatNet project has been severely delayed in meeting the targets under both Phase I and Phase II of the project and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing the scheme in 16 states via PPP model and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of scheme implementation in the remaining States not covered under PPP mode for BharatNet including Bihar?

ANSWER

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

- (a) BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country including Bihar.

As on 31-12-2021, the State/UT-wise status of Phase-I and Phase-II of BharatNet in the country, including Bihar, is given in **Annexure-I**.

- (b) The time-line for providing connectivity to all villages including Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country under BharatNet is August, 2023. In Bihar, BharatNet project is almost completed as 8299 GPs, out of planned 8405 GPs, have been made Service Ready.

- (c) Under BharatNet Phase-II, about 65,000 GPs in 8 States are being implemented under State-led model. The implementation by some States are not meeting the targeted time-lines and is adversely affecting the completion of the Project. Further, the other problems faced in the implementation of the project are mainly on account of widely dispersed Gram Panchayats (GPs) across remote corners of the country, covering difficult terrains (including Hilly/ Rocky), Right of Way (RoW) issues and also difficulty of access in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas.

- (d) & (e) On 30.06.2021, the scope of BharatNet was extended upto all inhabited villages beyond GPs, along with approval for a revised strategy for implementation of BharatNet through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, covering 3.61 lakh villages including GPs across 16 States of the country. Request for Proposal (RFP) has been floated for implementing the project for 16 States under PPP model on 20.07.2021.

Further, Cabinet has also given in-principle approval for extending village connectivity under BharatNet for all the remaining States/UTs. In Bihar, BharatNet connectivity upto villages is already under implementation through CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 124 for answer on 02.02.2022

BharatNet status as on 31-12-2021 of Phase-I and Phase-II, State/UT-wise including Bihar

S.No.	State/UT	GPs Planned in Phase-I	GPs Planned in Phase-II	Total Planned	GPs Service ready in Phase-I	GPs Service ready in Phase-II	Total Service Ready GPs
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	66	4	70	20	4	24
2	Andhra Pradesh*	1692	11734	13426	1680	27	1707
3	Arunachal	79	1717	1796	79	689	768
4	Assam	1506	1158	2664	1502	5	1507
5	Bihar	5720	2685	8405	5654	2645	8299
6	Chandigarh	12	0	12	12	0	12
7	Chhattisgarh*	4048	7634	11682	4048	4571	8619
8	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	36	2	38	38	0	38
9	Goa#		191	191		0	0
10	Gujarat*	6595	7692	14287	6430	7588	14018
11	Haryana	6082	177	6259	6082	0	6082
12	Himachal Pradesh	252	2974	3226	251	155	406
13	Jammu & Kashmir	413	3868	4281	408	647	1055
14	Jharkhand*	2707	1688	4395	2583	1558	4141
15	Karnataka	6084	2	6086	6083	0	6083
16	Kerala	977	1	978	977	1	978
17	Ladakh	0	193	193		188	188
18	Lakshadweep	0	10	10	0	9	9
19	Madhya Pradesh	12544	10297	22841	12533	4491	17024
20	Maharashtra*	15171	13066	28237	15159	6606	21765
21	Manipur	320	2465	2785	315	1121	1436
22	Meghalaya	122	1669	1791	122	503	625
23	Mizoram	41	722	763	41	411	452
24	Nagaland	127	867	994	116	114	230
25	Odisha*	3810	2989	6799	3809	2644	6453
26	Puducherry	98	10	108	98	0	98
27	Punjab	7948	5389	13337	7951	4717	12668
28	Rajasthan	8747	2605	11352	8739	30	8769
29	Sikkim	49	136	185	22	1	23
30	Tamil Nadu*\$	0	12520	12520	0	0	0
31	Telangana*	1946	10823	12769	1946	4471	6417
32	Tripura	584	437	1021	578	142	720
33	Uttar Pradesh	28031	31334	59365	27844	6836	34680
34	Uttarakhand	1831	6131	7962	1513	129	1642
35	West Bengal	2676	672	3348	2308	0	2308
	Total	120314	143862	264176	118941	50303	169244

*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 Ph-I & Phase-II of BharatNet Project.

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