

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4530
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH MARCH, 2022**

WiFi IN GRAM PANCHAYATS

4530. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has intensified operationalisation of WiFi in Gram Panchayats (GPs) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of GPs with operational WiFi as on date, State/UT-wise including Gujarat; and
- (c) the details of the financial outlay for this year dedicated for GP internet services?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b) BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. As on 28.02.2022, total 1,72,361 GPs (1,68,010 GPs on OFC and 4,351 GPs on satellite) have been made Service Ready in the country.

In Gujarat, Phase-II of BharatNet is implemented under State-led model through the State Government under which, 7608 GPs have been made Service Ready out of 7668 planned GPs. Further, 22 GPs have been made Service Ready on Satellite media out of 26 planned GPs. Under Phase-I, a total number of 6593 GPs were taken up for implementation through RailTel Corporation of India Limited, out of which 6489 GPs have been made Service Ready. In total, 14,119 GPs have been made Service Ready in Gujarat, as on 28.02.2022.

The work of providing broadband facility (Wi-Fi hotspots and Fibre to the Home connections) in Phase-I GPs, including that of Gujarat, is implemented with funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). For BharatNet Phase-II, the respective Implementing Agencies are responsible for the utilisation of the created network. Regular review & monitoring of the project is done with the Implementing Agencies for expeditiously making the Wi-Fi hotspots active/operational. The State/UT-wise number of GPs with active/operational Wi-Fi, including in Gujarat, is given at **Annexure-I**.

(c) For BharatNet project, Rs. 7,000 crore is the Revised Allotment (RE) for 2021-22.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in Parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4530 for answer on 30.03.2022

State/UT-wise number of GPs with active/operational Wi-Fi (as on 28.02.2022)

S. No.	State/UT	GPs with active/operational Wi-Fi
1	Andhra Pradesh	484
2	Arunachal Pradesh	114
3	Bihar	3553
4	Chandigarh	12
5	Chhattisgarh	2544
6	Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	12
7	Gujarat	1814
8	Haryana	4347
9	Himachal Pradesh	215
10	Jammu & Kashmir	358
11	Jharkhand	824
12	Karnataka	3154
13	Kerala	660
14	Ladakh	73
15	Madhya Pradesh	4236
16	Maharashtra	3406
17	Manipur	7
18	Meghalaya	21
19	Odisha	1336
20	Puducherry	81
21	Punjab	5511
22	Rajasthan	5233
23	Telangana	355
24	Tripura	316
25	Uttar Pradesh	13570
26	Uttarakhand	933
27	West Bengal	184
Total		53,353
