GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5651
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH APRIL, 2022

HIGH SPEED BROADBAND

5651. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   the number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) that have been connected with high speed broadband connectivity under BharatNet project as of February 2022, State-wise and district-wise for Rajasthan;

(b)   the details of the WiFi hotspots that have been established in rural areas under the BharatNet project, State-wise and district-wise for Rajasthan;

(c)   the details of services that have been launched in rural areas which can utilise this broadband connectivity;

(d)   whether the Government conducts awareness and educational drives to ensure citizens in rural areas operate these services and if so, the details thereof;

(e)   whether the Government has sufficient technically aware manpower in place to regularly check and fix such broadband connections in case they are not functioning and if so, the details thereof; and

(f)   whether the Government maintains records of complaints/feedback from the customers and if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken to address such issues?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

(a) & (b)   BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) of the country. The State/UT-wise details of Service Ready GPs, and Wi-Fi hotspots installed by utilizing BharatNet are given in **Annexure-I**. The District-wise details of Service Ready GPs, and Wi-Fi hotspots installed in Rajasthan are given in **Annexure-II**.

(c)   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 broadband services, such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc.

As on 28.02.2022, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 1,04,288 GPs, total 2,13,834 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided, 4,038 Gbps Bandwidth and 36,333 km dark fibre have been leased out.

(d)   The Government has approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)", implemented by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). Special focus of the said Scheme is on training the beneficiaries on use of Electronic Payment System and as of now, 4.91 crore persons have been trained.

(e)   BharatNet network is monitored through centralised Network Operating Centre (NOC) and its reports are monitored on a regular basis. Work of maintenance (i.e. Operations and Maintenance of incremental OFC network, First Line Maintenance of equipment and supporting infrastructure) is being carried out presently by CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (a SPV under MeitY, Government of India) in about 1.20 lakh GPs of the BharatNet Phase-I. For the Phase-II of BharatNet, the respective Implementing Agencies are responsible for the maintenance of the network.

The BharatNet infrastructure is utilized by Service Providers for provision of various services including broadband/internet connectivity in GPs/rural areas. The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of such network, created for providing the services, is done by the respective Service Providers.

(f)   Public Grievances, including the grievances pertaining to Internet/broadband services, are received, monitored, and resolved by the Department of Telecom through a Centralised Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). The grievances are forwarded to the concerned Service Providers, Director General Telecom Office & its Licensed Service Area Offices, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) or the concerned unit for their redressal.

Annexure referred to in Parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question   No. 5651 for answer on 06.04.2022

State/UT-wise details of Service Ready GPs and Wi-Fi hotspots installed under BharatNet

S. No.	State/UT	Number of GPs made Service Ready	Number of Wi-Fi Hotspot installed GPs
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	24	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1716	1570
3	Arunachal Pradesh	769	306
4	Assam	1508	0
5	Bihar	8302	5344
6	Chandigarh	12	12
7	Chhattisgarh	8856	3655
8	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	38	36
9	Goa	0	0
10	Gujarat	14119	3954
11	Haryana	6082	5955
12	Himachal Pradesh	406	252
13	Jammu & Kashmir	1076	985
14	Jharkhand	4254	2383
15	Karnataka	6083	5301
16	Kerala	978	977
17	Ladakh	190	172
18	Lakshadweep	9	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	17340	11537
20	Maharashtra	21977	11014
21	Manipur	1436	161
22	Meghalaya	651	70
23	Mizoram	452	0
24	Nagaland	232	0
25	Odisha	6617	2511
26	Puducherry	98	81
27	Punjab	12668	7887
28	Rajasthan	8770	8078
29	Sikkim	24	0
30	Tamil Nadu	0	0
31	Telangana	6886	1995
32	Tripura	723	574
33	Uttar Pradesh	36090	26855
34	Uttarakhand	1649	1251
35	West Bengal	2326	1372
	Total	**172361**	**104288**

Annexure referred to in Parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5651 for answer on 06.04.2022

District-wise details of Service Ready GPs and Wi-Fi hotspots installed in Rajasthan under BharatNet

S. No.	District	Number of GPs made Service Ready	Number of Wi-Fi Hotspot installed
1	Ajmer	282	268
2	Alwar	482	377
3	Banswara	115	301
4	Baran	186	209
5	Barmer	240	47
6	Bharatpur	374	360
7	Bhilwara	384	373
8	Bikaner	290	118
9	Bundi	183	186
10	Chittorgarh	267	289
11	Churu	253	210
12	Dausa	231	205
13	Dholpur	94	151
14	Dungarpur	121	245
15	Ganganagar	243	314
16	Hanumangarh	251	231
17	Jaipur	532	447
18	Jaisalmer	102	16
19	Jalore	274	229
20	Jhalawar	252	251
21	Jhunjhunu	301	242
22	Jodhpur	432	311
23	Karauli	222	224
24	Kota	156	158
25	Nagaur	466	365
26	Pali	321	310
27	Pratapgarh	110	151
28	Rajsamand	207	205
29	Sawai Madhopur	200	198
30	Sikar	343	291
31	Sirohi	162	142
32	Tonk	230	188
33	Udaipur	464	466
	Total	**8770**	**8078**

****