

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2869.
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 3RD AUGUST, 2022.**

ONDC

2869. SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has launched the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of cities where ONDC is operational along with the current user base;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to expand ONDC to the rest of India;
- (d) if so, the timeline of expansion;
- (e) whether the Government has put in any post-check and evaluation mechanism for ONDC; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम प्रकाश)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI SOM PARKASH)**

(a) & (b): Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is an initiative by DPIIT aiming at promoting open networks for all aspects of exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks. ONDC is based on open-sourced methodology, using open specifications and open network protocols independent of any specific platform.

These open protocols are used for establishing public digital infrastructure in the form of open registries and open network gateways to enable exchange of information between providers and consumers. Providers and consumers can thus use any compatible application of their choice for exchange of information and carrying out transactions over ONDC.

A test pilot of ONDC network has been launched in April, 2022 across 5 cities i.e Delhi, Bengaluru, Shillong, Coimbatore and Bhopal, with selected sellers and users. The pilot phase aims at field testing of technological solutions with

placement of real orders and getting deliveries in real world environment and fine tuning related processes.

(c) & (d): As more participants join the network with appropriate technological solutions, ONDC would gradually expand geographically.

(e) & (f): ONDC has been designed to work within the existing legislative and policy framework for e-commerce.
