

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2910
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2022**

PM WANI

†2910. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRIMATI DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:
SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH alias PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme;
- (b) whether public Wi-Fi network is likely to be set up in every part of the country particularly in Osmanabad Parliamentary constituency of Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the said Wi-Fi network is likely to be set-up in every part of the country;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any time limit in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the State-wise number of the said Wi-Fi network set up so far;
- (f) the district-wise and area-wise details of the said Wi-Fi network set up in Dadra & Nagar Haveli/Daman & Diu and Maharashtra;
- (g) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to ensure data security of users who are using the said Wi-Fi networks and if so, the details thereof;
- (h) the details of the issues faced till now and the steps taken to address them; and
- (i) the measures undertaken to curb security and privacy risks in this regard and the other measures proposed to be taken to improve digital access in the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) framework enables provision of broadband through a distributed architecture and unbundling of functions. Main entities under this framework are:

- (i) Application (App) Providers - to register users and discover WANI compliant Wi-Fi hotspots in the nearby area and display the same within the App for accessing the internet service.
- (ii) Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOAs) – to act as aggregator of Public Data Offices (PDOs) and to perform the functions relating to Authorization and Accounting.
- (iii) Public Data Offices (PDOs) - to establish, maintain, and operate PM WANI compliant Wi-Fi Access Points and deliver broadband services to subscribers.
- (iv) Central Registry - to maintain the details of App Providers, PDOAs, and PDOs.

These entities are neither required to take any license nor pay any fee to the Government. The details of the said framework are available at website <https://pmwani.gov.in> .

(b) to (d) Entities registered under the PM WANI framework set up Public Wi-Fi Access Points purely on commercial considerations. Government has not mandated them to set up Public Wi-Fi Access Points in any specific area of the country, under this framework.

(e) Information is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

(f) Information is enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

(g) to (i) As regards data security and privacy of users, PM-WANI framework and guidelines, inter-alia, state thus:

- (i) Public Data Office Aggregator (PDOA) shall make necessary provisions for storage of user data for one year to ensure compliance with legal provisions, as required.
- (ii) The user data privacy will be ensured by Application Providers (App Providers) and PDOAs. Complete user data and usage logs will be stored within India.
- (iii) Subject to terms and conditions of the Registration, the App Provider, PDOA and Central Registry Provider will take all necessary steps to safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of any information about a third party to whom it provides the service.

To bridge the digital divide and provide affordable broadband for all, the department has launched National Broadband Mission (NBM) on 17th December 2019. PM-WANI framework also enables provision of broadband services in the country through Public Wi-Fi (Wireless Fidelity).

State / Union Territory wise number of PM WANI Hotspots

Serial Number	State / Union Territory	Number of Hotspots
1	Andaman & Nicobar	8
2	Andhra Pradesh	5145
3	Arunachal Pradesh	584
4	Assam	569
5	Bihar	2646
6	Chandigarh	254
7	Chhattisgarh	2535
8	Delhi	12165
9	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
10	Daman and Diu	0
11	Goa	378
12	Gujarat	3038
13	Himachal Pradesh	501
14	Haryana	2986
15	Jharkhand	827
16	Jammu & Kashmir	1292
17	Karnataka	16806
18	Kerala	3692
19	Ladakh	343
20	Lakshadweep	1
21	Maharashtra	12969
22	Meghalaya	140
23	Manipur	7
24	Madhya Pradesh	6177
25	Mizoram	1
26	Nagaland	29
27	Odisha	1937
28	Punjab	3353
29	Puducherry	63
30	Rajasthan	1918
31	Sikkim	7
32	Telangana	3571
33	Tamil Nadu	6242
34	Tripura	297
35	Uttarakhand	671
36	Uttar Pradesh	6411
37	West Bengal	2830
TOTAL		100393

District wise PM WANI Hotspots in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Maharashtra

Maharashtra		
Serial Number	District	Number of Hotspots
1	AHMEDNAGAR	735
2	AKOLA	278
3	AMRAVATI	233
4	AURANGABAD	217
5	BEED	221
6	BHANDARA	180
7	BULDHANA	223
8	CHANDRAPUR	249
9	DHULE	160
10	GADCHIROLI	159
11	GONDIA	227
12	HINGOLI	11
13	JALGAON	482
14	JALNA	99
15	KOLHAPUR	515
16	LATUR	246
17	MUMBAI CITY	1360
18	MUMBAI SUBURBAN	590
19	NAGPUR	367
20	NANDED	234
21	NANDURBAR	68
22	NASHIK	729
23	OSMANABAD	192
24	PALGHAR	245
25	PARBHANI	132
26	PUNE	1860
27	RAIGAD	316
28	RATNAGIRI	350
29	SANGLI	541
30	SATARA	395
31	SINDHUDURG	233
32	SOLAPUR	385
33	THANE	356
34	WARDHA	152
35	WASHIM	66
36	YAVATMAL	163
Total		12969
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		Nil
Daman & Diu		Nil
