

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1585
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST JULY, 2024**

INTERNET FACILITES IN RAJASTHAN

1585 SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of people in the Rajasthan are not being able to use internet and are unable to get various internet-based facilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to provide internet connectivity to those people who have no access to internet facility in the State of Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure net neutrality in India; and
- (d) whether the Government has issued directions to monitor net neutrality in their network, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) All urban areas of Rajasthan have 4G coverage. Further, there are 46,077 villages in Rajasthan, out of which 44,269 villages (as of June 2024) are covered with internet connectivity.
- (b) Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) provide telecom connectivity in a phased manner. Government through funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is implementing various projects such as BharatNet, Aspirational District Project and 4G saturation Project to enhance internet connectivity in the rural and remote areas of Rajasthan. As of June 2024, 8776 Gram Panchayats (GPs) planned under Phase-I and Phase-II of Bharatnet Project have been made service ready.
- (c) Directives on Net Neutrality, incorporating the principles of non-discriminatory treatment of content were issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in July 2018. Subsequently, DoT amended the Unified License for Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Unified License (Virtual Network Operators) and Unified Access Service License Agreement to incorporate the principles of non-discriminatory treatment of content in Sept. 2018 and issued an amendment in Internet Service Provider License for Regulatory Framework on “Net Neutrality” in May 2019.
- (d) Technical audit of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) is carried out as per the License Agreement and includes the provisions related to net neutrality.
