

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2697
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2024**

OPTICAL LINE TERMINAL

†2697. SHRI PATEL UMESHBHAI BABUBHAI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that under the Digital India initiative, BBNL has awarded the work of connecting the Gram Panchayats with the internet service in the State of Gujarat to ITI Ltd., Bangalore through GFGNL, Gandhinagar under the bidding system and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the dates on which the work of each Optical Line Terminal (OLT) is likely to be completed in Gujarat and Daman & Diu, district-wise and the last date for putting OLT on maintenance after the completion of said work by ITI;
- (c) the current status of payment made to the MSME contractors who have completed the work of the said OLTs and the reasons for non-payment to some Contractors, if any, and the time by which the said payments are likely to be made;
- (d) whether any changes have been made in the first signed contract between ITI and the contractors, if so, and the status of the interests of the MSME contractors as a result thereof; and
- (e) whether the changes in the contract have been made after awarding the same and if so, the legality of the said contract?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, a work order has been awarded to Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) in year 2018 for BharatNet Phase-II Package-A for region covering 12 districts of Gujarat by the state implementing agency i.e. the Gujarat Fibregrid Network Limited (GFGNL). The works for all the 213 Optical Line Terminals (OLTs) has been completed by ITI and these OLTs have been put under maintenance.

(c) to (e) The details of payment made and pending payments to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) vendors by ITI is available on Digital Bharat Nidhi website (<https://usof.gov.in/en/home>). In case of one MSME vendor, purchase order has been short-closed as per terms and conditions of the tender and purchase order due to non-completion of the awarded work.
