

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2858
ANSWERED ON 18.03.2025

INTERNET AND E-PANCHAYATS

†2858. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAVAN RAJENIMBALKAR:
SHRI SANJAY UTTAMRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to State:

- (a) whether all Gram Panchayats of various States have been provided with internet/ePanchayat facility, if so, the details thereof, along with the time by which internet facilities are likely to be provided to all States;
- (b) the details of villages connected to internet in the country, State and district-wise especially in Osmanabad and Washim-Yavatmal Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide internet facility in those villages in the country where internet facility has not been provided yet;
- (d) the details and the number of Panchayats in the country which have been provided with internet/e-Panchayat facility along with the details of the schemes being implemented in the country during the last five years and the current year, State-wise including State of Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to provide internet facility in those villages where internet facility is not available as on date; and
- (f) the details of other schemes being implemented by the Government in this regard particularly in Osmanabad and Washim-Yavatmal Parliamentary Constituency?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) & (b) Under Digital India Programme, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is implementing e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP), in all the States/ Union Territories (UTs) of the country. The aim is to revamp the functioning of Panchayats and to make them more transparent, accountable, and effective. Ministry has launched eGramSwaraj, an accounting application to simplify Panchayat work like planning, accounting, and budgeting. Ministry

has also integrated eGramSwaraj with Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for Gram Panchayats (GPs) to make real-time payments to vendors/service providers. As on Date, 2,54,508 Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) for 2024-25 have been prepared and available in e-GramSwaraj. The progress made by States/UTs, under eGramSwaraj for the year 2024-25 is given at **Annexure-I**. Further, the number of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) prepared by Maharashtra, particularly in Osmanabad and Washim-Yavatmal Parliamentary Constituency is provided below.

State/UT/ District Panchayat	Total GPs	GPDP 2024-25
Maharashtra	27951	27744
Latur	786	784
Osmanabad	622	618
Solapur	1024	1011
Washim	491	491
Yavatmal	1201	1200

Further, BharatNet project being funded by Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs). This infrastructure is leased to TSPs/ISPs for provision of internet connectivity in GPs/rural areas including post offices/other Government institutions/ villages, schools, and private areas.

As of March 2025, out of 2,69,020 GPs planned, 2,18,347 GPs have been made Service Ready (Points) for providing high speed internet services under the BharatNet project. The State wise details of GPs made Service Ready for providing Broadband services is given in **Annexure-II**. Further, the details of Gram Panchayats that have been made service-ready in Maharashtra, particularly in Osmanabad and the Washim-Yavatmal Parliamentary Constituency, are provided below.

State/UT/ District Panchayat	Total GPs	Service Ready Points *
Maharashtra	27951	24778
Latur	786	792
Osmanabad	622	629
Solapur	1024	817
Washim	491	488
Yavatmal	1201	1127

* The data is sourced from the BharatNet UNMS Dashboard, and some Gram Panchayats may have multiple service-ready points.

Furthermore, Amended BharatNet Programme has been approved by Cabinet on 04.08.2023, wherein up-gradation of existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II and work of creation of network in balance 42,000 GPs (approx.) is proposed. BSNL has been nominated as the Project Management Agency.

(c) to (e) Following steps have been taken to provide broadband connections in GPs/rural areas including villages/ Government institutions, schools, post offices and private areas.

1. The BharatNet infrastructure is leased to TSPs/ISPs on non-discriminatory manner for provision of internet connectivity.
2. Interactions have been held by BBNL/BSNL with the User Ministries/Departments to seek the demand for high-speed data connections for the institutions running in rural areas.
3. Demand registration portal 'https://ruralfiber.bsnl.co.in' has been developed and shared with the Ministries/Departments.
4. BSNL has developed Franchisee Management System (FMS) for on boarding the franchisees and revenue share partners for proving FTTH connection in rural areas including GPs.
5. To improve the network availability at GPs
 - I. Planned Maintenance Agencies and Fibre Maintenance Agencies have been appointed for restoration of faulty/ damaged optical fibre cable.
 - II. Amended BharatNet Programme has been approved by Cabinet on 04.08.2023, for up-gradation of existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II, creation of network in balance 42,000 GPs (approx.), Operation and Maintenance for 10 years for which tendering is under process.

Further, the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs) prepared and made available on eGramSwaraj over the last five years including Maharashtra, district wise is provided below.

State/UT/ Panchayat	District	Total GPs*	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Maharashtra		27951	27744	27661	27806	27878	27876
Latur		786	784	784	784	785	785
Osmanabad		622	618	621	622	622	622
Solapur		1024	1011	1014	1018	1027	1028
Washim		491	491	490	491	491	491
Yavatmal		1201	1200	1200	1199	1201	1201

*Total GP as of March 2025

Additionally, the total number of broadband connections provided through BharatNet from March 2019 to March 2024, as well as October 2024, is provided in **Annexure-III**.

(f) Ministry is implementing Revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) w.e.f. financial year 2022-23 in States/ UTs with main objective of capacitating Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) through imparting training to the Elected Representatives (ERs), functionaries and other stakeholders to develop their governance capabilities for leadership roles to enable the Panchayats to function effectively. Under scheme fund has been released to States/ Union territories not to Districts/ Gram Panchayats.

Additionally, the Ministry is implementing the SVAMITVA Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme, aims to provide 'Record of Property Rights' to residents of rural inhabited areas by issuing Property Cards/Title Deeds through drone-based land parcel mapping. Implemented collaboratively by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, State Revenue Departments, State Panchayati Raj Departments, and the Survey of India, the scheme

facilitates the monetization of rural residential properties, reduces property disputes, and enhances village-level planning through digital mapping, contributing to rural self-reliance. As of March 12, 2025, drone surveys have been completed in 3.20 lakh villages nationwide, with approximately 2.42 crore property cards prepared for 1.59 lakh villages.

In Maharashtra, drone surveys have been completed in around 37,609 villages, leading to the preparation of 2.60 lakh property cards for 16,618 villages. The progress made in Osmanabad and Washim-Yavatmal Parliamentary Constituency is as under.

District	Drone flying (Villages)	No. of Property Card Prepared
Latur	869	83450
Osmanabad (Dharashiv)	725	31152
Solapur	1092	41327
Washim	677	42087
Yavatmal	1795	130555

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2858 answered on 18.03.2025 regarding 'Internet and e-Panchayats'.

Adoption of eGramSwaraj at Panchayat level during FY 2024-25

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	13328	13296	12970	660	660	642	13	13	13
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2108	2106	222	0	0	0	27	25	8
3	ASSAM	2662	2197	2176	191	191	189	30	29	27
4	BIHAR	8054	8054	8045	534	534	530	38	38	38
5	CHHATTISGARH	11596	11594	11516	146	146	146	27	27	27
6	GOA	191	190	93	0	0	0	2	2	2
7	GUJARAT	14656	14599	13890	248	248	248	33	33	33
8	HARYANA	6226	6222	5914	143	143	134	22	22	22
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3615	3614	3540	81	81	81	12	12	12
10	JHARKHAND	4345	4345	4329	264	264	262	24	24	24
11	KARNATAKA	5954	5954	5937	238	232	126	31	31	28
12	KERALA	941	941	941	152	152	152	14	14	14

S.No	State Name	Total Number of Village Panchayats & Equivalent	Village Panchayat onboard	Village Panchayats & Equivalent With Online Payment	Total Number of Block Panchayats & Equivalent	Block Panchayat onboard	Block Panchayats With Online Payment	Total Number of Zila Panchayats & Equivalent	Zila Panchayat onboard	Zila Panchayats With Online Payment
13	MADHYA PRADESH	23011	23009	22980	313	313	310	52	52	52
14	MAHARASHTRA	27917	27894	26737	351	351	307	34	34	34
15	MANIPUR	3180	161	123	0	0	0	12	6	4
16	MEGHALAYA	6817	0	0	2241	0	0	3	3	0
17	MIZORAM	842	842	832	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	NAGALAND	1289	186	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	ODISHA	6794	6794	6793	314	314	314	30	30	30
20	PUNJAB	13237	13222	9775	152	151	114	22	22	19
21	RAJASTHAN	11211	11207	10837	361	353	351	33	33	33
22	SIKKIM	199	199	195	0	0	0	6	6	6
23	TAMIL NADU	12525	12525	12519	388	388	388	36	36	36
24	TELANGANA	12991	12768	12636	572	540	508	32	32	32
25	TRIPURA	1194	1185	1174	75	75	75	9	9	9
26	UTTARAKHAND	7795	7794	7743	95	95	95	13	13	13
27	UTTAR PRADESH	57691	57691	57609	826	826	818	75	75	75
28	WEST BENGAL	3339	3339	3338	345	345	345	22	21	21
Total		263708	251928	242864	8690	6402	6135	652	642	612

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2858 answered on 18.03.2025 regarding 'Internet and e-Panchayats'.

State wise details service ready points for providing Broadband connections.

S. No.	States/Uts	Total no. of GPs	No. of Service Ready Points*
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	70	81
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	13327	12972
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2108	1145
4	ASSAM	2665	1634
5	BIHAR	8054	8860
6	CHHATTISGARH	11623	9759
7	GOA	191	0
8	GUJARAT	14674	14563
9	HARYANA	6225	6204
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3615	416
11	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	4291	1115
12	JHARKHAND	4345	4649
13	KARNATAKA	5948	6251
14	KERALA	941	1130
15	LADAKH	193	193
16	LAKSHADWEEP	10	9
17	MADHYA PRADESH	23011	18106
18	MAHARASHTRA	27952	24778
19	MANIPUR	3812	1485
20	MEGHALAYA	6838	697
21	MIZORAM	843	539
22	NAGALAND	1315	236
23	ODISHA	6794	7099
24	PUDUCHERRY	108	101
25	PUNJAB	13236	12807
26	RAJASTHAN	11193	8997
27	SIKKIM	199	54
28	TAMIL NADU	12525	10298
29	TELANGANA	12860	10926
30	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	42	41
31	TRIPURA	1194	772
32	UTTAR PRADESH	57691	47451
33	UTTARAKHAND	7788	2021
34	WEST BENGAL	3339	2958
	Total	269020	218347

* The data is sourced from the BharatNet UNMS Dashboard, and some Gram Panchayats may have multiple service-ready points.

Annexure-III

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2858 answered on 18.03.2025 regarding 'Internet and e-Panchayats'.

No. of cumulative Broadband connection provided through BharatNet.

S. No.	States/UTs	Mar, 19	Mar, 20	Mar, 21	Mar, 22	Mar 23	Mar-24	Oct-24
1	A&N	0	0	2	0	1185	5524	7347
2	Andhra Pradesh	19	450	7366	3585	3444	32173	46179
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	24	88	88	13	13
4	Assam	740	986	5839	1136	2229	5024	5649
5	Bihar	870	118	33626	37012	15705	33768	40789
6	Chandigarh	0	0	55	0	64	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	956	1201	17469	9513	4474	8277	11549
8	D&NH	0	10	44	35	7	46	142
9	D&D	0	11	34	21	1	0	0
10	Gujarat	679	4592	33875	22897	20877	119604	121265
11	Haryana	183	803	33279	17597	37349	103665	137543
12	Himachal Pradesh	3	94	1072	438	1095	2828	3451
13	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	0	109	766	508	4022	8575	9575
14	Jharkhand	711	921	15705	3010	11737	24338	27565
15	Karnataka	5122	8347	36666	10859	15196	44990	51098
16	Kerala	1632	2179	2624	1941	40194	141927	190237
17	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Laddakh(UT)					0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	2497	605	55044	7579	45218	48306	55381
20	Maharashtra	3034	5304	66075	23386	11329	23228	26063
21	Manipur	0	0	100	335	1105	1110	1737
22	Meghalaya	0	0	100	16	14	149	103
23	Mizoram	0	0	21	0	32	9	41
24	Nagaland	0	0	52	116	116	101	131
25	Odisha	191	1649	21057	9534	4911	9073	10907
26	Puducherry	22	83	785	114	28	3072	3826
27	Punjab	66	747	38994	33341	68560	177734	213118
28	Rajasthan	1622	1948	2376	1029	11579	42628	49252
29	Sikkim	0	0	8	0	15	41	44
30	Telangana	144	526	2353	2648	4479	19854	20881
31	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	1014	51	82
32	Tripura	0	651	2980	1426	709	1231	1370
33	Uttar Pradesh	3798	2360	106203	33444	13204	55711	67525
34	Uttarakhand	856	561	8280	4647	4691	16072	19675

S. No.	States/UTs	Mar, 19	Mar, 20	Mar, 21	Mar, 22	Mar 23	Mar-24	Oct-24
35	West Bengal	212	1041	7294	2886	15447	37091	51998
	Total	23357	35296	500168	229141	340118	966213	1174536