

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4157
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2025**

PM-WANI SCHEME

4157. DR. GANAPATHY RAJKUMAR P:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of service providers and Public Data Offices(PDO) existed in the country under PM-Wani scheme;
- (b) whether the PDOA (PDO Aggregator) has been facing problems in procuring hardware for PDOs and there by bringing to a standstill in the Wi-Fi business; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the supply of hardware for the business?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) framework aims to accelerate proliferation of internet services by setting up public Wi-Fi Hotspots in the country with the objective of building digital India and consequential benefits thereon.

Under the PM-WANI framework, Public Data Offices (PDOs) establish, operate and maintain WANI compliant Wi-Fi Hotspots based on their techno-commercial considerations and deliver internet services to subscribers. PDOs need to partner with a Public Data Office Aggregator (PDOA) to deliver internet services.

The total number of PM-WANI Wi-Fi hotspots installed in the country, as on 20.03.2025, are 2,78,439.

- (b) & (c) PM-WANI compliant Wi-Fi hardware is easily available in the market. As per the information furnished by Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), PM-WANI compliant Wi-Fi hardware is also supplied by C-DOT through its transfer of technology (ToT) partners.
