

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5193
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND APRIL, 2025**

INTERNET LINKED TO VILLAGES

**†5193. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:
SHRI SANJAY UTTAMRAO DESHMUKH:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken on a war footing to connect all the villages in the country to the internet;
- (b) the details of the villages connected to internet services during the last five years, in Maharashtra particularly in Parbhani and Washim-Yavatmal Lok Sabha constituencies;
- (c) the number of villages deprived of internet service in the said Constituencies and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details and the number of the linked villages;
- (e) the time by which every village in the country is likely to get internet connectivity;
- (f) the details of the funds allocated/released/utilized and financial assistance provided by the Government for the said purpose in Maharashtra, particularly in Parbhani Constituency during the last three years and the current year; and
- (g) the details of the funds allocated and financial assistance provided by the Government for increasing digital literacy during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) Government is implementing various schemes under Digital Bharat Nidhi for expansion of internet connectivity through installation of 4G mobile towers in the rural and remote areas of the country including 4G saturation project. In addition, BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections etc. to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages on demand basis.

As of December 2024, out of 6,44,131 villages in country (village data as per Registrar General of India), around 6,25,853 villages are covered with mobile connectivity including 6,18,968 villages having 4G mobile coverage. In Maharashtra, out of 43931 villages, 41570 villages are covered with mobile connectivity including 40,703 villages having 4G mobile coverage. Out of 3752 villages in Parbhani, Washim and Yavatmal Districts, 3697 villages are covered with mobile connectivity including 3601 villages having 4G mobile coverage.

(f) An amount of Rs. 3187.83 crore has been allocated/released/utilized under various Schemes during last three year (2021-22 to 2023-24) and current year 2024-25 (upto 31.01.2025) for Maharashtra.

(g) A total of Rs 715.92 crores was released in the last 3 years under The Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) to increase digital literacy across the country.
