GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3854
ANSWERED ON 12.08.2025

INTERNET ACCESS AND DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN GRAM PANCHAYATS

3854. SHRI KULDEEP INDORA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to State:

(a)   whether the Government has assessed the current status of broadband and in digital connectivity in Gram Panchayats in the country;

(b   if so, the details thereof including the number and proportion of Gram Panchayats having functional internet access and digital infrastructure, State-wise;

(c)   whether e-Gram Swaraj portal is fully implemented in all Panchayats and integrated with other major databases;

(d)   if not, the reasons therefor and the expected time by which it is likely to be fully integrated; and

(e)   whether the Government has allocated resources for maintenance, training and technical support to ensure effective use of digital Governance tools at the panchayat level and if so, the detailsthereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ

(PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) & (b)   The Government is committed to strengthening digital connectivity in rural areas as part of its vision of Digital India. Accordingly, the current status of broadband and digital infrastructure at the Gram Panchayat level is being regularly monitored in coordination with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and respective State Governments.

To accelerate broadband access, the BharatNet project is being implemented by DoT in a phased manner to provide high-speed internet connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Traditional Local Bodies (TLBs) across the country. As per information available on BharatNet UNMS Dashboard on 07.08.2025, out of a total of 2.69 lakh GPs/TLBs, over 2.18 lakh Service-Ready Points have been made under the BharatNet project.

Further, to enhance digital infrastructure, the Union Cabinet approved the Amended BharatNet Programme on 04.08.2023. This includes upgradation of the existing networks under Phase-I and Phase-II of BharatNet and extending connectivity to the remaining uncovered GPs. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been nominated as the Project Management Agency for this initiative. State/UT-wise details of service-ready Gram Panchayats are provided at **Annexure-I**, while district-wise data is publicly available on the BharatNet portal (https://bbnl.nic.in). To facilitate ease of access for Panchayats, an interface has also been made available on the eGramSwaraj portal to apply for Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) connections in service-ready areas.

Additionally, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj monitors Panchayat-level digital activity through the eGramSwaraj platform. In FY 2024–25, over 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), and more than ₹61,000 crore was transferred through the eGramSwaraj–PFMS interface. For FY 2025–26, 2.46 lakh GPs have already uploaded their GPDPs, and around 2.05 lakh GPs have facilitated the transfer of over ₹19,000 crore using the same platform. These developments reflect the Government′s continued efforts toward improving last-mile digital access and strengthening digital governance at the grassroots level.

(c) & (d)   The eGramSwaraj portal has been made operational for all Gram Panchayats across the country to bring transparency and accountability in Panchayat functioning by enabling online planning, budgeting, accounting, and payment. States have been advised to ensure entry of data on the portal. As of now, the majority of Panchayats are actively using the platform for various activities related to Panchayat functioning. In FY 2024-25, a total of 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats across the country uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plans

(GPDPs), and 2.53 lakh Gram Panchayats (State wise details in **Annexure -II**) have transferred over ₹61,000 crorethrough the eGramSwaraj-PFMS interface.

The portal has also been integrated with other key platforms such as the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for real-time financial transactions, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for procurement, BharatNet/BSNL for internet connectivity tracking, and databases of other Ministries for sharing scheme beneficiary information.

The Ministry is collaborating with State Governments to improve data entry and platform adoption under the e-Panchayat MMP. Enhancements are continually made based on user feedback, including functionality upgrades in e-GramSwaraj and capacity-building efforts for Panchayat officials. While all States are working towards implementing the e-Panchayat MMP based on their available resources, varying levels of preparedness among Panchayats have resulted in States being at different stages of adoption.

(e) Yes, Sir. Under the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP), the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has taken several initiatives to strengthen digital governance at the Panchayat level. While no direct funds are provided to the States under e-Panchayat MMP, resources are allocated through the National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICSI) for central-level support. These include activities related to the development, maintenance, and enhancement of e-Panchayat applications such as eGramSwaraj.

In addition, financial assistance is provided to States/UTs under the centrally sponsored scheme of Revamped Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). Under RGSA, support is extended for:

- Capacity building and training of Panchayat functionaries on e-Governance tools;
- Technical manpower for handholding and field-level ICT support;
- Provision of IT infrastructure and internet connectivity at Panchayat offices;
- Workshops and IEC activities to promote digital adoption among Panchayats.

These measures are aimed at empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions to effectively use digital platforms for planning, monitoring, accounting, and overall governance functions.

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Annexure-I referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3854 answered on 12.08.2025 regarding 'Internet Access and Digital Infrastructure in Gram 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

S.No.	States/Uts	Total no. of GPs	No. of Service Ready Points*
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 referred to in reply to part (c) & (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3854 answered on 12.08.2025 regarding 'Internet Access and Digital Infrastructure in Gram Panchayats'.

Adoption of eGramSwaraj at Gram 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	13320	13002	660	660	645	13	13	13
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	2108	2108	426	0	0	0	27	26	11
3	ASSAM	2662	2197	2183	191	191	191	30	29	27
4	BIHAR	8054	8054	8046	534	534	531	38	38	38
5	CHHATTISGARH	11701	11684	11540	146	146	146	33	33	27
6	GOA	191	191	97	0	0	0	2	2	2
7	GUJARAT	14656	14645	14006	248	248	248	33	33	33
8	HARYANA	6226	6226	5980	143	143	134	22	22	22
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3615	3615	3557	81	81	81	12	12	12
10	JHARKHAND	4345	4345	4335	264	264	263	24	24	24
11	KARNATAKA	5954	5954	5942	238	232	127	31	31	29
12	KERALA	941	941	941	152	152	152	14	14	14
13	MADHYA PRADESH	23011	23011	22987	313	313	311	52	52	52
14	MAHARASHTRA	27955	27940	27025	351	351	312	34	34	34
15	MANIPUR	3812	161	125	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

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
18	NAGALAND	1289	977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	ODISHA	6794	6794	6794	314	314	314	30	30	30
20	PUNJAB	13237	13234	10240	153	151	123	23	22	19
21	RAJASTHAN	11222	11219	10905	361	353	351	33	33	33
22	SIKKIM	199	199	195	0	0	0	6	6	6
23	TAMIL NADU	12525	12525	12520	388	388	388	36	36	36
24	TELANGANA	12991	12768	12648	572	540	514	32	32	32
25	TRIPURA	1194	1194	1175	75	75	75	9	9	9
26	UTTARAKHAND	7795	7795	7757	95	95	95	13	13	13
27	UTTAR PRADESH	57691	57691	57638	826	826	819	75	75	75
28	WEST BENGAL	3339	3339	3339	345	345	345	22	21	21
	Total	**264494**	**252969**	**244235**	**8691**	**6402**	**6165**	**659**	**649**	**616**