

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 615  
ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY, 2025**

**WI-FI HOTSPOTS/FTTH SERVICE IN RURAL AREAS**

**615. DR. BHOLA SINGH:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of Gram Panchayats connected under the BharatNet project since 2014, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any third-party evaluation to assess internet usage and impact on rural education, health and e-governance, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of number of rural areas where Wi-Fi hotspots or FTTH (Fiber to the Home) services have been enabled under the project;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken to ensure affordability and last-mile connectivity for economically weaker sections; and
- (e) whether there are any plans to expand BharatNet Phase-III in backward districts with poor digital penetration and, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country, so far 2,14,325 GPs have been made service ready. State-wise details of GPs made service ready in the country is given in **Annexure-I**
- (b) Yes, BSNL conducted a third-party audit during March–April 2024 to assess the implementation of a pilot project for implementation of 5 lakh FTTH connections in rural areas through the BharatNet network. The audit findings indicated satisfactory coverage of FTTH services across various States/UTs through OLT installed by BNU partners.
- (c) A total of 1,04,574 Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed under the BharatNet Project, and 13,01,193 Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) connections have been provided as on 30.06.2025.
- (d) Amended BharatNet Program is being implemented under which subsidy is being provided to roll out 1.5 Cr. FTTH connections to ensure affordability and last mile connectivity.
- (e) Providing connectivity to remaining GPs and further strengthening of the network is under the scope of Amended BharatNet Program (ABP). ABP also includes connectivity to non-GP villages on demand basis including remote and tribal areas of the state.

**Annexure-I**

Annexure referred to Part (a) to (d) (i) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 615 for answer on 23.07.2025

**State-wise details of Gram Panchayat made service ready in the Country**

S.No	State	Total Service Ready
1	Andaman & Nicobar	72
2	Andhra Pradesh	12,955
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,124
4	Assam	1,507
5	Bihar	8,340
6	Chandigarh	12
7	Chhattisgarh	9,695
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20
9	Daman & Diu	18
10	Goa	-
11	Gujarat	14,320
12	Haryana	6,082
13	Himachal Pradesh	410
14	Jammu & Kashmir	1,101
15	Jharkhand	4,390
16	Karnataka	6,084
17	Kerala	978
18	Ladakh	193
19	Lakshadweep	9
20	Madhya Pradesh	17,850
21	Maharashtra	24,575
22	Manipur	1,475
23	Meghalaya	698
24	Mizoram	540
25	Nagaland	236
26	Odisha	6,785
27	Puducherry	98
28	Punjab	12,668
29	Rajasthan	8,776
30	Sikkim	35
31	Tamil Nadu	10,298
32	Telangana	10,825
33	Tripura	740
34	Uttar Pradesh (E)	34,274
35	Uttar Pradesh (W)	12,472
36	Uttarakhand	1,993
37	West Bengal	2,677
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,14,325</b>

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