GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1930
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026

BHARATNET IN TAMIL NADU

1930. SHRI MALAIYARASAN D:
DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   the current status of the BharatNet project, including the number of Gram Panchayats connected across the country and State-wise including Tamil Nadu;

(b)   the targets set for completion of Phase 2 of BharatNet and the timelines for full coverage of all Gram Panchayats;

(c)   the challenges faced in the implementation of BharatNet in Tamil Nadu and steps taken to overcome them;

(d)   the extent of utilization of BharatNet infrastructure by the Government and private service providers in Tamil Nadu to provide broadband connectivity;

(e)   the measures taken to ensure last-mile connectivity and affordable internet access in rural areas of Tamil Nadu under this scheme;

(f)   the challenges faced in expanding telecommunications infrastructure in rural and remote areas particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(g)   the steps undertaken by the Government to improve the quality of internet services in rural regions and to bridge the urban-rural divide?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b)   Total number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) made service-ready under BharatNet Project including Phase-I and Phase-II across the country till 31.12.2025 is 2,14,904, which includes 10,869 GPs of Tamil Nadu. BharatNet Phase-II in Tamil Nadu is being implemented by the state government. State/UT wise details of number of Gram Panchayats connected under the BharatNet project is attached as **Annexure-I**.

(c) to (g)   Challenges like Right of way issues, involvement of multiple agencies, damage of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) due to development works etc. have been faced in the implementation of BharatNet across country including Tamil Nadu. All these challenges are being addressed with planning and co-ordination with concerned agencies. The infrastructure created under BharatNet can be utilized to provide broadband services, such as Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, Wi-Fi Hotspots, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers etc. in rural areas. The interested households and institutions in rural areas will be provided FTTH connection on demand basis through BharatNet Udyami (BNU) model under ABP with funding support from Digital Bharat Nidhi.

State-wise details of number of Gram Panchayats connected under the BharatNet project (as on 31.12.2025)

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of GPs made Service Ready
1	Andaman & Nicobar	72
2	Andhra Pradesh	12955
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1124
4	Assam	1507
5	Bihar	8340
6	Chandigarh	12
7	Chhattisgarh	9695
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20
9	Daman & Diu	18
10	Goa	0
11	Gujarat	14320
12	Haryana	6082
13	Himachal Pradesh	410
14	Jammu & Kashmir	1101
15	Jharkhand	4390
16	Karnataka	6084
17	Kerala	978
18	Ladakh	193
19	Lakshadweep	9
20	Madhya Pradesh	17850
21	Maharashtra	24575
22	Manipur	1475
23	Meghalaya	698
24	Mizoram	540
25	Nagaland	236
26	Odisha	6785
27	Puducherry	98
28	Punjab	12668
29	Rajasthan	8776
30	Sikkim	35
31	Tamil Nadu	10869
32	Telangana	10833
33	Tripura	740
34	Uttar Pradesh	46746
35	Uttarakhand	1993
36	West Bengal	2677
	Total	**214904**

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