

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5965

ANSWERED ON 30/03/2026

Providing High Speed Internet Connectivity in Government Schools in Rural Areas

5965. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure adequate access to high-speed internet connectivity in Government schools located in rural and remote areas across the States;
- (b) if so, the details of such initiatives undertaken by the Central Government to provide high speed internet connectivity in rural areas;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines or set standards for the establishment of smart classrooms, digital boards and ICT-enabled learning infrastructure in rural Government schools;
- (d) if so, the details of the number of schools where such smart infrastructure has been implemented as on date along with the funds allocated and utilized under these programmes during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the details of the computer-to-students ratio in Government schools in the country, State/UT-wise, particularly in Saran district of Bihar?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): Education is part of the Concurrent List of the Constitution and most of the Government schools are under the administration of the State Government and its bodies.

The Government of India, in the Budget 2025, has announced provision of broadband connectivity to all Government Secondary schools in rural areas, under the 'BharatNet' project to enhance digital infrastructure in remote areas. To provide FTTH internet connections to Government schools having computing devices, DoSEL has advised all States/UTs including rural areas to enter into MoUs/Agreements with BSNL.

The Ministry of Education implements ICT and Digital initiatives under Samagra Shiksha to enhance digital learning in Government schools across the country, including rural areas of Bihar. The initiatives aim to enhance the quality of education by integrating technology into teaching and learning processes. Under the initiatives, funds are provided for setting up ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms according to the requirements of the State submitted in the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B). The non-recurring/recurring grant under 'ICT and Digital Initiatives' is available to the States and UTs for following two options:

- Option I: Under this option schools which have not availed the ICT facility earlier can either opt for ICT or smart classrooms as per their requirement and need. In case of more than 700 enrolments, an additional ICT lab can also be considered.
- Option II: Under this option, schools which have already availed the ICT facility earlier can avail smart classrooms/tablets as per the norms of the scheme.

ICT Lab: A non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 6.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of upto Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years. From 2023-24, the scheme also offers step-wise funding based on school enrolment. (Strength <100: Rs. 2.5 Lakhs, Strength between 100 – 250: Rs. 4.5 Lakhs, Strength between 250 – 700: Rs.6.4 Lakhs)

Smart Classrooms: The non-recurring grant for Smart Classrooms (2 smart classrooms per school) is of Rs. 2.40 lakh and the recurring grant is Rs. 38,000/- per school per annum (including E Content and Digital Resources, Charges for Electricity).

The State/UT wise details of ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms approved and functional in the last three years (i.e. from 2022-23 to 2024-25) are at Annexure-I. The State/UT wise details of funds allocated and utilised in the last three years (i.e. from 2022-23 to 2024-25) for ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms are at Annexure-II.

As per UDISE + 2024-25 Report, 64.7% schools have computer facilities and 63.5% schools have access to internet. The computer-to-student ratio in Government schools varies across districts depending on infrastructure availability.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5965 RAISED BY SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026 REGARDING "PROVIDING HIGH SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN RURAL AREAS".

The State/UT wise details of ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms approved and functional in the last three years (i.e. from 2022-23 to 2024-25)

State/UT	ICT Labs/ Smart Classrooms					
	2024-25		2023-24		2022-23	
	Approval	Functional	Approval	Functional	Approval	Functional
A&N Islands	3	3	6	6	8	8
Andhra Pradesh	1221	14	3552	3552	1145	1144
Arunachal Pradesh	126	100	216	0	146	134
Assam	980	152	1701	1	885	885
Bihar	1254	0	1981	0	126	126
Chandigarh	33	1	2	2	95	95
Chhattisgarh	6018	0	871	871	0	0
DND - DNH	49	0	42	24	78	77
Delhi	249	0	90	0	52	52
Goa	0	0	3	0	0	0
Gujarat	556	693	926	448	0	0
Haryana	283	20	679	310	455	342
Himachal Pradesh	17	17	12	0	898	616
J&K	2301	0	544	0	1037	1036
Jharkhand	623	8	1789	1516	625	606
Karnataka	549	0	100	0	1768	437
Kerala	24	0	115	1	257	257
Ladakh	83	58	66	66	24	23
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	4605	228	4336	3350	658	658
Maharashtra	373	0	518	309	2405	2233
Manipur	78	0	109	109	174	173
Meghalaya	58	46	29	29	42	42
Mizoram	322	0	217	217	90	90
Nagaland	85	0	13	13	47	47
Odisha	776	0	0	0	2119	2119
Puducherry	0	0	0	0	45	45
Punjab	143	0	1019	0	1223	664
Rajasthan	1428	0	4357	5	820	811
Sikkim	37	27	3	0	32	32
Tamil Nadu	7362	0	3536	3536	2211	2211
Telangana	1067	607	1337	697	94	93
Tripura	138	108	147	147	857	857
Uttar Pradesh	6943	12	7898	22	18733	18444
Uttarakhand	39	0	78	0	195	102
West Bengal	662	0	63	0	0	0
Total	38485	2094	36355	15231	37344	34459

Source: PRABANDH

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5965 RAISED BY SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026 REGARDING "PROVIDING HIGH SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN RURAL AREAS".

The State/UT-wise details of funds allocated and utilized for ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms from 2022-23 to 2024-25**

(Rs. in Lakh)

States/UTs	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Fund Allocated	Fund Utilized*	Fund Allocated	Fund Utilized*	Fund Allocated	Fund Utilized*
A&N Islands	51.2	21.3	17	488.3	7.5	6.6
Andhra Pradesh	5588	5250.2	9744.8	30030.3	4633.4	33.6
Arunachal Pradesh	378	608	595.9	0.0	317.7	242.7
Assam	4704	12648.5	4082.4	12193.5	2344.3	441.6
Bihar	302.4	10533.1	4754.4	25404.7	3364.3	0.0
Chandigarh	134.4	98.9	6.9	103.6	207.2	2.3
Chhattisgarh	0	4062.7	2125.6	1161.1	17408.9	0.0
DND - DNH	310.4	262.4	109.1	390.9	168.8	0.0
Delhi	152.8	448	1350	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goa	0.0	0.0	13.4	6.6	0.0	0.0
Gujarat	0.0	3535.2	2646.4	7955.1	2754.8	2512.9
Haryana	1544	2086	1815.6	4951.9	704.4	104.8
Himachal Pradesh	3283.2	3753	28.8	3753	24.3	24.3
J&K	3300.8	0.0	1330.7	0.0	5573.9	0.0
Jharkhand	3516	2451.1	7623	4992.7	2143.3	399.6
Karnataka	4243.2	6878	735	0.0	2291	14.6
Kerala	616.8	336	276	0.0	58.5	0
Ladakh	112	89.2	163	0.0	190.1	139.4
Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	1579.2	412.8	12697.5	2385.9	13073.8	1027.9
Maharashtra	5772	1097.7	2632.8	9061.4	1603.3	0.0
Manipur	553.6	213.6	266.8	1252.7	199.4	0.0
Meghalaya	212.8	0.0	102.4	535.3	166.7	86.4
Mizoram	464	0.0	566.5	588	803.5	796.1
Nagaland	112.8	461.3	31.2	860.3	179.8	0.0
Odisha	5085.6	4068.5	0.0	0.0	1489.2	595.2
Puducherry	108	292.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Punjab	5261.2	0.0	3367.7	5444.3	766.2	0.0
Rajasthan	3616	3693.8	12228.8	319.4	4931.1	0.0
Sikkim	76.8	57.6	7.5	223.7	151.6	64.8
Tamil Nadu	14150.4	24223.2	10114.6	0.0	21701.1	0.0
Telangana	601.6	12815.7	3944.2	0.0	3640.6	2588.6
Tripura	3232.8	1752.2	440.5	3517	404.7	319.6
Uttar Pradesh	46115.2	35335.5	24826.4	0.0	20827	13974.5
Uttarakhand	468	0.0	234	0.0	127.2	0.0
West Bengal	0.0	0.0	755.2	0.0	1632.8	0.0
Total	115647.2	137486.34	109634.1	115619.74	113890.4	23375.5

Source: PRABANDH

* It includes State share and the unspent balance of previous years