

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 906
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2026**

BHARATNET CENTRALLY FUNDED/MONITORED SERVICE

906. DR. MALLU RAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government acknowledges that BharatNet is centrally funded and centrally monitored, yet responsibility for last-mile service delivery is routinely attributed to States and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this results in a diffused accountability structure where neither Centre nor State can be held responsible for non-functional connectivity in constituencies like Nagarkurnool and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan/penalty or any corrective mechanism exists when fiber is laid and lit but services remain unavailable and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government tracks such “asset-created-but-unused” cases and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether continuation of expenditure without service outcomes violates principles of outcome-based governance; and
- (f) the steps proposed to fix this accountability gap?

ANSWER

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

- (a) BharatNet is funded by the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) under the Department of Telecommunications. Assets created under BharatNet are national assets owned by DBN accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to all service providers for service provision including last-mile service delivery.
- (b) Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under Department of Telecommunications implemented BharatNet Phase I & II. Eight States including Telangana were given the responsibility of implementing BharatNet Phase-II. In Nagarkurnool district 415 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made service-ready
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with States including Telangana defines roles and responsibilities of the parties and are available on <https://usof.gov.in/en/project-documents>.
- (c) Government has approved a revised implementation model for BharatNet under the Amended BharatNet Program on 04.08.2023. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) as the Project Management Agency (PMA) has signed agreements with Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs)

which includes Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for Operation & Maintenance of the network as per RFP provisions. RFP available on https://tender.bsnl.co.in/bsnltenders/bsnltender/tender_achieve_view_detail_1.jsp?&tenderID=50543

(d) to (f) The details of utilization of BharatNet network as on 31.12.2025 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Item	Quantity
1	FTTH connections Provided (no's)	14,07,784
2	Dark Fibre leased (fibre Kms)	1,19,905
3	Leasing of Bandwidth (in Mbps)	3,98,841
4	Data consumption (in TB)	1,89,448

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), which is an attached office of NITI Aayog maintains the Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) which includes indicators for digital connectivity programs including DBN funded projects. The details are available on the DMEO website (https://dmeo.gov.in/output-outcome-framework?ministry=55&tid_1=223). BharatNet Project is being monitored by the Government, State Broadband Committees (SBCs) and District Level Telecom Committees (DLTCs).
