

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1148**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH, 2016**

**FIBER CONNECTIVITY**

†1148. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of big project regarding fiber connectivity of the Government at panchayat level in the State of Madhya Pradesh and the possible use of this connectivity at primary level in the opinion of the Government;
- (b) whether there is any provision of training as part of the project;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is preparing a skilled manpower pool to use it in a better way; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was planned, in 2011, to connect all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Madhya Pradesh, through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and RailTel and laying incremental fiber wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks for providing broadband connectivity. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), namely, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012 under Indian Companies Act 1956. Under this project, at least 100 Mbps bandwidth has to be provided in all the estimated 2.5 lakh GPs for utilization by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis including Internet Service Providers. These access providers/service providers like mobile operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), cable TV operators, content providers can launch various services in rural areas. Various applications for e-health, e-education, e-governance etc. can be provided.

State-wise status of NOFN, including Madhya Pradesh, as on 31.01.2016, is given in the Statement at **Annexure-I**.

(b) & (c): There is no provision of training as part of the Project.

(d) & (e): Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC), a non profit organisation constituted in January, 2013 has empanelled 157 training partners across the country and trained 1.21 lakh persons so far.

**Contd.....2/-**

**Statewise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 31.01.2016**

S.No.	States/ UTs	No. of Gram Panchayats (GPs)- Phase I	Pipe laid (kms.)	Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) laid (in kms)	No. of GPs where OFC laid	No. of GPs lit
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	624	93	69	47	0
2.	Himachal Pradesh	283	201	75	14	0
3.	Punjab	6128	4432	3280	2055	0
4.	Haryana	6090	4775	4340	2776	45
5.	Rajasthan	6967	11281	10065	3092	71
6.	Chandigarh	12	18	19	12	12
7.	Uttarakhand	1767	1190	862	554	46
8.	UP (West)	8040	8095	4290	2055	65
9.	UP (East)	14474	14634	10545	4764	36
10.	Bihar	5202	6416	5303	1936	124
11.	West Bengal	2713	1933	1683	619	0
12.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Assam	1013	1751	1359	515	23
14.	Jharkhand	1388	2600	1862	770	84
15.	Odisha	3388	4086	2960	1355	12
16.	Andaman & Nicobar	69	0	0	0	0
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	256	272	69	10	0
18.	Nagaland	743	1160	509	154	0
19.	Manipur	24	71	73	24	0
20.	Meghalaya	638	737	210	47	0
21.	Tripura	1021	1277	951	434	40
22.	Mizoram	163	183	0	0	0
23.	Madhya Pradesh	10516	15531	12134	3898	26
24.	Chattishgarh	2110	4368	3913	1258	171
25.	Gujarat	5735	5508	3572	1648	91
26.	Maharashtra	12055	11078	7826	3478	37
27.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Karnataka	5599	9596	9248	4348	2283
30.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1913	19	0	0
31.	Telengana	2097	3912	2883	1296	5
32.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Kerala	977	746	810	1129	1129
34.	Pudducherry	98	82	92	98	101
35.	Lakshadweep	10	0	0	0	0
36.	Goa*	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100200</b>	<b>117939</b>	<b>89021</b>	<b>38386</b>	<b>4401</b>

\*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.