

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.615  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2016**

**BHARAT NET**

615. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN:  
SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO:  
SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:  
SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:  
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:  
SHRI C.R. PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of progress made under Bharat Net Phase against the set target along with the details of Gram Panchayats connected so far;
- (b) whether the Government is considering the initiating of Phase II of the Bharat Net;
- (c) whether any special feature is included for Phase II implementation in terms of strengthening of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) as well as the monitoring mechanism and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intends to engage any other agency/private sector in the process for efficient functioning and effective project management and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has evaluated the performance of the three PSUs involved in the National Optical Fibre Network till date as compared to targets set, State-wise and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) BharatNet project is planned to be implemented in phases. Under Phase-I of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) are to be connected by laying underground OFC by March 2017. The status of progress made under BharatNet Phase-I, as on 09.07.2016, is given below:-

Items	Planned	Achieved
Pipe laid (km)	2,30,000	1,50,540
OFC pulled (km)	2,30,000	1,25,642
Pipe laid (Gram Panchayats)	1,00,000	64,875
Optical Fibre Network (OFC) pulled (Gram Panchayats)	1,00,000	54,023
Connectivity provided (Gram Panchayats)	1,00,000	7,312

(b) to (d) Under Phase-II of BharatNet project, it is planned to provide connectivity to remaining 1.5 lakh GPs in the country using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, by December, 2018. The salient features of BharatNet Phase-II in terms of strengthening of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) i.e. BBNL and monitoring mechanism are at **Annexure-I**.

(e) The performance of all the three CPSUs is being monitored regularly at various levels. State-wise performance of CPSUs in implementation of BharatNet is at **Annexure-II**.

Contd...2/-

**Annexure-I**

**Salient features of BharatNet Phase-II in terms of strengthening of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) i.e. BBNL and monitoring mechanism**

- (i) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay has been engaged as consultant to provide media plan for radio and satellite broadband connectivity to GPs for Phase II and other technology issues.
- (ii) Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad is being engaged to provide roadmap for reorganization of BBNL for efficient functioning and effective project management.
- (iii) World Bank is being engaged to provide project management framework, recommend standards and good practices for BharatNet management and rural broadband demand assessment study and development of marketing strategies
- (iv) Fresh recruitment of manpower for field operations and management
- (v) Monitoring Mechanism of BBNL has been strengthened in April, 2016 with the setting up monitoring and issues resolution by three committees:
  - 1. Empowered Committee to review progress and resolution of policy level implementation issues & to meet once in a month.
  - 2. Steering Committee for resolution of inter-agency implementation matters, to meet every fortnight.
  - 3. Technical Standing Committee for deciding the technology related issues pertaining to BharatNet implementation.
- (vi) Mobile application based GIS monitoring system is being developed for capturing monitoring data at field level with mobile devices to be displayed on GIS maps in realtime.

Condt....3/-

**Annexure-II**

**Statewise status of BharatNet as on 09.07.2016**

S.No.	States/ UTs	Executing CPSU	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	Andaman & Nicobar	BSNL	69	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	PGCIL	0	1913	19	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	RailTel	256	594	100	22	0
4	Assam	BSNL	1013	1986	1887	707	156
5	Bihar	BSNL	5202	7928	6915	2597	215
6	Chandigarh	BSNL	12	18	19	12	12
7	Chhattisgarh	BSNL	2110	5207	4982	1684	602
8	Goa*		-	-	-	-	-
9	Gujarat	RailTel	5735	7005	5395	2479	139
10	Haryana	BSNL	6090	5633	5481	3399	168
11	Himachal Pradesh	PGCIL	283	232	128	44	0
12	Jammu & Kashmir	BSNL	624	253	240	103	0
13	Jharkhand	PGCIL	1388	2895	2685	1062	156
14	Karnataka	BSNL	5599	10300	10569	5195	3074
15	Kerala	BSNL	977	720	826	1129	1129
16	Lakshadweep†		10	0	0	0	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	BSNL	10516	20346	18220	6209	193
18	Maharashtra	BSNL	12055	16001	13361	5821	272
19	Manipur	RailTel	24	71	73	24	0
20	Meghalaya	RailTel	638	1086	257	76	0
21	Mizoram	RailTel	163	447	81	0	0
22	Nagaland	RailTel	743	1935	758	170	0
23	Odisha	PGCIL	3388	5292	4450	1808	122
24	Puducherry	RailTel	98	82	92	98	101
25	Punjab	BSNL	6128	5546	5117	3807	0
26	Rajasthan	BSNL	6967	14568	13702	4173	316
27	Telangana	PGCIL	2097	4155	3670	1648	106
28	Tripura	RailTel	1021	1508	1306	593	79
29	Uttar Pradesh	BSNL	22514	30535	21493	9547	281
30	Uttarakhand	BSNL	1767	1751	1415	806	184
31	West Bengal& Sikkim	BSNL	2713	2536	2401	810	7
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>100200</b>	<b>150543</b>	<b>125642</b>	<b>54023</b>	<b>7312</b>

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

† In Lakshadweep, no Right of Way (RoW) agreement has been signed.

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