

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 50
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

BHARATNET PROJECT

†*50. **SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:
SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the BharatNet Project;
- (b) whether all Gram Panchayats and post offices of all the States have been connected with optical fibre;
- (c) if not, the number of Gram Panchayats that have not yet been connected with optical fibre, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the funds allocated/utilised thereunder, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the time by which the remaining areas are likely to be connected with optical fibre?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *50 FOR 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019 ON “BHARATNET PROJECT”.

(a) & (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As on 07.11.2019, by laying 3,80,988 km Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), a total of 1,40,668 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been connected, out of which 1,27,393 GPs have been made Service Ready. In addition, 983 GPs have been provided connectivity through satellite media. As part of BharatNet project, the Last Mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband access technology, is funded from USOF for two Wi-Fi Access points (hotspots) per GP. As of now, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed in 44,786 GPs.

The connectivity to rural Post Offices is not covered in BharatNet scheme. However, 32 Post Offices are utilizing BharatNet connectivity through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

(c) The number of Gram Panchayats that have not yet been connected with optical fibre, State/UT wise is given in **Annexure-I**.

(d) Funds for the project are allocated as a whole and not State/Union Territory-wise. A lump sum of Rs. 20889 crore has been allocated and disbursed from Universal Service Obligation Fund to Bharat Broadband Network Limited for execution of BharatNet project. The details of State/UT wise fund disbursement/utilization under BharatNet Project are at **Annexure-II**.

(e) The BharatNet project is under implementation and a total of 2 lakh GPs are targeted to be completed by March 2020.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in Part (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *50 for Answer on 20.11.2019.

Details of Gram Panchayats that have not yet been connected with optical fibre, State/UT wise:

S. No.	State/UT	Total No. of GPs including BHQs	No. of GPs connected with OFC	No. of GPs yet to be connected
1	Andaman & Nicobar	67	24	43
2	Andhra Pradesh	13518	4067	9451
3	Arunachal Pradesh	745	565	180
4	Assam	2979	1622	1357
5	Bihar	8893	7852	1041
6	Chandigarh	13	13	0
7	Chhattisgarh	10158	4559	5599
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	21	21	0
9	Daman & Diu	18	18	0
10	Gujarat	14311	8862	5449
11	Haryana	6204	6188	16
12	Himachal Pradesh	3115	241	2874
13	Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh	3100	368	2732
14	Jharkhand	4651	2670	1981
15	Karnataka	6268	6243	25
16	Kerala	1129	1129	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	23695	13621	10074

S. No.	State/UT	Total No. of GPs on OFC including BHQs	No. of GPs connected with OFC	No. of GPs yet to be connected
18	Maharashtra	28260	18059	10201
19	Manipur	664	376	288
20	Meghalaya	971	356	615
21	Mizoram	275	130	145
22	Nagaland	922	656	266
23	Odisha	7070	4087	2983
24	Puducherry	101	101	0
25	Punjab	12934	11210	1724
26	Rajasthan	10109	8765	1344
27	Sikkim	207	41	166
28	Tamil Nadu	12909	0	12909
29	Telangana	13421	2047	11374
30	Tripura	905	817	88
31	Uttar Pradesh	56211	31977	24234
32	Uttarakhand	7531	1529	6002
33	West Bengal	3708	2454	1254
	Total	255083	140668	114415

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in Part (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *50 for Answer on 20.11.2019.

Details of funds disbursed/utilized under BharatNet:

S. No.	State/UTs	Disbursement/Utilization (In Cr.)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	15.22
2	Assam	155.1
3	Bihar	573.62
4	Chhattisgarh	939.22
5	Haryana	409.65
6	Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh	72.27
7	Karnataka	618.01
8	Kerala	66
9	Maharashtra	1976.12
10	Madhya Pradesh	1506.53
11	Punjab	575.38
12	Rajasthan	774.8
13	Uttar Pradesh (East)	961.94
14	Uttar Pradesh (West)	599.26
15	Uttarakhand	200.72
16	West Bengal	365.33
17	Sikkim	51.78
18	Puducherry	4.96
19	Arunachal Pradesh	45.73
20	Manipur	46
21	Meghalaya	67.23
22	Mizoram	34.35
23	Nagaland	74.1
24	Tripura	70.76
25	Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	1631.52
26	Lakshadweep	0.1

S. No.	State/UT	Disbursement/utilization (In Cr.)
27	Telangana	310.73
28	Odisha	479.86
29	Jharkhand	349
30	Himachal Pradesh	80.25
31	Andhra Pradesh	530.33
32	Tamil Nadu	121.45
33	Chandigarh	0.01
	GPON(Gigabit Passive Optical Network)& OFC (Optical Fibre Cable)	813.87
	Advance given to BSNL for Phase II	3165
	Total	17686.2
