

1	2	3	4
21.	SSP	6000	10420
22.	16-20-0-13	14100	15300
23.	20-20-0-13	14135	19000
24.	NPK 13:33:0:6	13729	17400
25.	15-15-15-09	14851	15000
26.	Urea	5310	5310

**Broadband connectivity for villages**

2212. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government is contemplating to provide broadband connectivity to villages for establishing e-governance in village panchayats;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the number of villages covered under the scheme as on date and the time by when all the villages are likely to be covered with broadband connectivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The Government has approved the scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) on 25th October, 2011, for providing Broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats through Optical Fibre Cable. The connectivity to Gram panchayats will be provided through this network for establishing e-governance.

NOFN project will be executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) *i.e.* Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), a company incorporated under Indian Companies Act 1956 fully owned by Central Government, with equity participation from Government, BSNL, Railtel and Powergrid. The Company has been incorporated on 25.2.2012 for this purpose. Presently, the pilots are being conducted in Paravada block of Vishakhapatnam district in Andhra Pradesh. Arian block of Ajmer district in Rajasthan and Panisagar block of North Tripura district in Tripura.

(c) All the Gram Panchayats in the country will be covered under the scheme. The project is to be completed in two years' time.