

Objectives of BharatNet project

485. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of BharatNet project;
- (b) whether the objectives framed for this project have been achieved so far;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, what actions have been taken/ are being taken by Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) 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. The project is under implementation and the infrastructure being created is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory manner for provision of Services. The project envisaged providing affordable broadband services in rural and remote areas towards realisation of the vision of 'Digital India'.

The target of completing 1,00,000 GPs under Phase-I of BharatNet was achieved in December, 2017. The work of connecting the remaining GPs of BharatNet is under progress. As on 07.11.2019, by laying 3,80,988 km. Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), a total of 1,40,668 GPs have been connected, out of which 1,27,393 GPs have been made Service Ready. In addition, 983 GPs have been made Service Ready on satellite media.

Broadband connections to Gram Panchayats of Rajasthan

†486. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that all Gram Panchayats of Rajasthan are yet to be provided broadband connections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with broadband connections and those which are yet to receive such facility, district-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the number of Wi-Fi hotspots provided in Gram Panchayats of the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) 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, including Rajasthan. As of now, a total of 8746 GPs (including BHQs) have been made Service Ready in Rajasthan. The District-wise details of Gram Panchayats, which have been provided with broadband connectivity and those which are yet to receive such facility under BharatNet project in Rajasthan, are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) As part of BharatNet project, the Last Mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology to access broadband /internet services, is to be provided at all the 2.5 lakh GPs in the country including Rajasthan. In Rajasthan, as of now, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed in 8813 GPs, out of which, Service are being provided in 3964 GPs.

Statement

District-wise details of BharatNet connectivity in Rajasthan

Sl. No.	District	Total No. of GPs*	Total No. of Service Ready GPs*	No. of GPs yet to be made Service Ready*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ajmer	290	290	0
2.	Alwar	525	493	32
3.	Banswara	356	116	240
4.	Baran	228	192	36
5.	Banner	501	200	301
6.	Bharatpur	384	380	4
7.	Bhilwara	395	395	0
8.	Bikaner	296	287	9
9.	Bundi	187	187	0
10.	Chittorgarh	300	276	24

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Churu	259	258	1
12.	Dausa	246	230	16
13.	Dholpur	175	96	79
14.	Dungarpur	300	123	177
15.	Hanumangarh	257	257	0
16.	Jaipur	546	533	13
17.	Jaisalmer	143	101	42
18.	Jalore	282	281	1
19.	Jhalawar	258	258	0
20.	Jhunjhunu	309	309	0
21.	Jodhpur	476	339	137
22.	Karauli	223	213	10
23.	Kota	161	161	0
24.	Nagaur	477	474	3
25.	Pali	331	329	2
26.	Pratapgarh	170	112	58
27.	Rajsamand	214	213	1
28.	Sikar	351	351	0
29.	Sirohi	167	157	10
30.	Sriganganagar	345	249	96
31.	Sawaimadhopur	205	202	3
32.	Tonk	236	235	1
33.	Udaipur	558	449	109
TOTAL		10151	8746	1405

*Including BHQs.