

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 387  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022  
GHAR TAK FIBRE SCHEME IN ODISHA**

**387 SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Wi-Fi technology is used to provide the services in rural areas under the BharatNet project, if so, the plan for the deployment of Wi-Fi technology in rural areas in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the status of Ghar Tak Fibre scheme to connect all the inhabited villages of Odisha; and
- (c) the status of the sanction of DPR submitted by the State, date of commencement and target date of completion?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

- (a) BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. In the State of Odisha, BharatNet Phase-II is being implemented by the State Government.

The infrastructure created under BharatNet project is a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the Service Providers, and the same can be utilized for provisioning of broadband/internet services through Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc.

The work of providing broadband facility (Wi-Fi hotspots and Fibre to the Home connections) in Phase-I GPs is implemented with funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). As on 31.12.2021, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed under BharatNet Phase-I in 2511 GPs.

BharatNet Phase-II in Odisha is being implemented by the State Government, which is also responsible for its utilization. However, no Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed under Phase-II so far.

- (b) & (c) The Union Cabinet on 30.06.2021 has enhanced the scope of BharatNet for connecting all inhabited villages in the country, including the villages of Odisha.

In this regard, since BharatNet Phase II in Odisha is being implemented by the State Government, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) dated 24.09.2021 titled “Ghar Tak Fibre” has been received from the Government of Odisha. This DPR is based on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) model.

Subsequently, a revised proposal dated 13.01.2022 to execute the project under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model has been received. However, this revised proposal is not accompanied with any DPR.

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