WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 4TH AUGUST, 2023*

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, 4th August, 2023 was adjourned on account of interruptions. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, 7th August, 2023

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 166 TO BE ANSWERED ON $4^{\rm TH}$ AUGUST, 2023

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS UNDER BHARAT NET PROJECT IN HIMACHAL PRADESH.

166 DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the Bharat Net project in Himachal Pradesh since the inception of this programme in 2021;
- (b) the details of villages connected with broadband facility under this project in the State so far; and
- (c) whether Government has also fixed any target under the project and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS & ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 166 FOR 4TH AUGUST, 2023 REGARDING "ALLOCATION OF FUNDS UNDER BHARAT NET PROJECT IN HIMACHAL PRADESH".

- (a) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) of the country. As on 30.06.2023, a sum of Rs. 121.53 crore has been utilized in Himachal Pradesh for BharatNet Project.
- (b) As of 30-06-2023, total 1,94,909 GPs have been made Service Ready under the BharatNet project in the country including 408 GPs of Himanchal Pradesh.
- (c) The scope of BharatNet has been extended to cover all inhabited villages beyond GPs in the country including Himachal Pradesh.
