

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:219

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010

BROADBAND CONNECTIONS

Mahtab Shri Bhartuhari;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) the total number of people benefited by the development of Broadband Services in rural areas of the country;
- (b) whether any targets have been fixed by the Government to provide Broadband Services in rural areas of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the targets fixed during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the service providers of broadband services including Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are not giving the declared broadband speed to the subscribers in the country;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) 5,62,668 rural Broadband connections have been provided in rural areas of the country.
- (b) Yes, Madam. A target of 8,88,832 wireline broadband connections have been set to be completed by 2014 for the ongoing Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme. Further it has been decided to provide Broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats by 2012.
- (c) Year-wise target for providing broadband services in rural areas of the country has not been fixed. In addition to target of Broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats, cumulative Circle wise target for the ongoing Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme to be achieved by 2014 is as per Annexure.
- (d) No, Madam, service providers including MTNL and BSNL are giving the declared broadband speeds, measured at point of presence (PoP), to their subscribers. However, sometimes subscribers may get lower speed due to problems in computer or accessed server.
- (e) & (f) Not applicable in view of (d) above.