

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 361
ANSWERED ON-30.11.2021

DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

†361. SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the scheme to connect village Panchayats with broadband/internet is being implemented under Digital India Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of village Panchayats connected with broadband/internet including those located in the State of Chhattisgarh as on date;
- (d) the parameters/criteria being adhered to connect village Panchayats with broadband/internet; and
- (e) the time by which the work of connecting village Panchayats with broadband/internet is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL)

(a) to (c) Under the Digital India Programme, BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide last mile broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology including Fiber to the Home (FTTH). As on 01.11.2021, a total number of 1,66,088 Gram Panchayats have been made Service Ready in the country, including 8,386 Gram Panchayats in Chhattisgarh.

(d) All the Gram Panchayats are to be provided broadband connectivity under the BharatNet project. Further, as part of this project, the last mile connectivity is to be provided through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology in all GPs to access broadband/internet services. The scope of BharatNet has been recently extended upto all inhabited villages beyond Gram Panchayats.

(e) The targeted date for completion of the project is August, 2023.
