

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1698
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.03.2018

IMPLEMENTATION OF BHARATNET IN GRAM PANCHAYATS OF ODISHA

1698 **SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: -

- (a) whether Government would expedite the implementation of BharatNet project in all Gram Panchayats of Odisha for effective rollout of various initiatives under the Digital India Programme;
- (b) if so, the details including time-lines for the same;
- (c) whether Government would constitute a National Task Force to ensure mobile and broadband connectivity to deficit areas in Odisha and similarly placed States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): For expediting the implementation of BharatNet in the country including Odisha, a modified strategy to implement BharatNet has been approved by Cabinet on 19.07.2017. The approved strategy provides optimal mix of media to connect GPs, implementation by State-led Model, Private Sector, CPSU Model, laying of fresh fibre from Block to GPs and setting up of last mile architecture at all GPs. The timeline for completion of the Project is March, 2019.

(c) and (d): For constituting a National Task Force to ensure mobile and broadband connectivity to deficit areas in Odisha and similarly placed States, no proposal is presently under consideration of the Government. In the Phase-II of BharatNet, implementation of the project by State-led model has been taken up. Odisha and 7 other State have been approved for implementation by State-led model and mobilisation advance has also been provided to all these States.
