

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1990
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH, 2023**

INTERNET INFRASTRUCTURE

1990 DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to improve the condition of internet broadband infrastructure under PM Gati Shakti Master Plan;
- (b) steps taken by Government to reduce the logistic cost for internet broadband; and
- (c) the policy of Government for combining the various infrastructure projects of different Ministries, and the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) Government has taken following steps to improve the condition of infrastructure of internet broadband under PM GatiShakti NMP :

Approx. 11 Lakh Route KMs Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) of Public Sector Undertakings and around 23.5 lakh BTS (Base Transceiver Station) have been mapped on PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP) platform. Also, OFC (Optical Fiber Cable) of State Governments of Telangana, Kerala & Jharkhand has been mapped. These OFC can be used by telecom service providers for connecting the un-fiberized Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) with the nearest available OFC. Fiberization of the BTSs helps in improvement of the internet speed. States can also plan to provide Fiber connections to connect their public institutions with the nearest available OFC using the PM GatiShakti NMP platform.

PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP), a GIS based platform with portals of various Ministries / Departments of Government, was launched in October, 2021 with the objective of providing data-based decision-making for integrated planning, prioritization of projects, synchronized implementation, optimisation of cost and time and project monitoring aiming at facilitating development of multi-modal connectivity infrastructure to various economic zones by Ministry / Departments across the country so as to facilitate last mile connectivity to economic clusters and thereby reducing logistics cost.

To ensure better decision making and coordination among various Central Ministries/Departments, Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) and Network Planning Group (NPG) have been created as institutional arrangement. Meetings of NPG are held at regular intervals to monitor progress of the various projects and to examine and recommend projects to EGoS.
