

## BharatNet

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | E-governance*

### Why in News?

Recently, the Union Communications Minister informed about BharatNet's progress, digital connectivity expansion, and National Broadband Mission 2.0 targets for 2030.

- **Aim** - To bridge the digital divide by providing high-speed broadband connectivity to rural India.
  - Especially focused on **Gram Panchayats and villages.**
- **Launched in** - **October 2011.**
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Communications.
- **Implementation** - A Centre-State collaborative project with States providing free Right of Way (RoW).
  - **Right of Way (ROW)** - It is a set of property rights given to government agencies, allowing them to construct and maintain important projects.
- **Key Features - Funded by** - **Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).**
- **Connectivity** - Through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), satellite, radio, fibre over power lines, and Wi-Fi hotspots.
- **Coverage** - Expanded to cover all villages and implemented through the PPP model in 16 States.
- **Progress** - **Over 2.14 lakh Gram Panchayats connected under Phases I and II.**
- More than 2 lakh villages covered and over 1 lakh Wi-Fi installations completed (as of Sept 2025).
- **Significance** - Bridges the digital divide between urban and rural India.
- Enables e-governance, e-health, e-education, agriculture services, and welfare delivery directly to rural citizens.
- Backbone for the Digital India initiative and inclusive digital growth.

### Quick Fact

**National Broadband Mission (NBM) 2.0: Targets for 2030**

- **Aim** - To provide a *roadmap for universal broadband access by 2030*.
- **Launched in** - *April 2025*
- **Objective** - To ensure high-speed broadband and meaningful connectivity for all, including rural and remote areas.
- **Key Targets for 2030** -

Parameter	Target (2030)	Current Status
<b>Optical Fibre Connectivity</b>	2.7 lakh villages (95% uptime)	42,000 villages (Dec 2025)
<b>Anchor Institutions Connectivity</b> (schools, anganwadis, panchayats)	90%	68.8%
<b>Broadband Speed</b>	100 Mbps average fixed broadband speed	61.55 Mbps
<b>Right of Way (RoW) Processing</b>	Faster approvals	Reduced from 455 days to 30.4 days
<b>Fibre Mapping</b> (PM GatiShakti)	100%	94%
<b>Rural Internet Penetration</b>	60 subscribers per 100 population	47.16 per 100 population

## Reference

[PIB | BharatNet](#)