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Title: Regarding providing fund for providing low cost broadband and other Internet services to Tamil Nadu villages.

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Sir, our visionary leader honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had announced that high quality, low cost broadband and other Internet services will be provided to village panchayats to be linked under the Bharat Net Scheme. The Government of India has also accepted the Government of Tamil Nadu's proposal of a State-led model for Bharat Net.

Accordingly, a Detailed Project Report as prepared and sent to the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications and IT on 4.2.2016 seeking funding of Rs. 4628 crore from Universal Service Obligation Fund for implementing the project through a Special Purpose Vehicle.

Hence the Central Government should take necessary steps to grant approval for the project at the earliest.