


PROJECT REPORT

The National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) is a **project** initiated in 2011 and funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund to provide broadband connectivity to over 200,000 gram panchayats of India.

- ❖ NOFN is the largest rural connectivity project of its kind in the world.
- ❖ It aims to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- ❖ It seeks to link each of the 2.5 lakh village panchayats in the country spread over 6600 blocks and 631 districts through broadband optical fibre network in order to provide a minimum bandwidth of 100 Mbps.
- ❖ On its completion, NOFN is expected to facilitate Broadband connectivity to over 600 million rural citizens of the country.
- ❖ NOFN, is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), Department of Telecom, Ministry of Communications & IT.
- ❖ It will offer people with friendly services like e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, public internet access etc. It will also enable delivery of various government services such as local planning, management, monitoring and payments of Government schemes at panchayat level.
- ❖ Thus it will help to provide non-discriminatory telecom infrastructure, in order to bridge the gap of digital divide in rural internet access.


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