

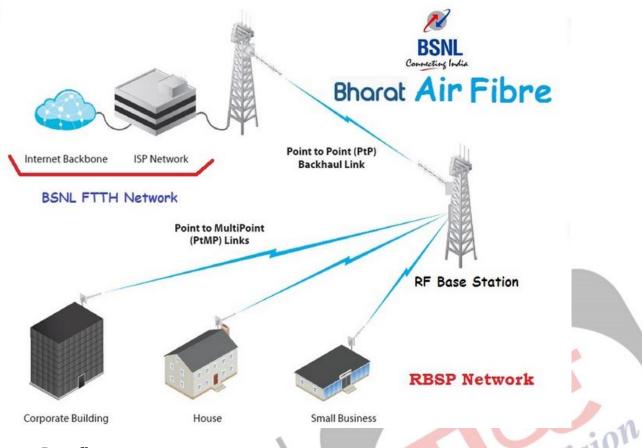
## **Bharat Air Fibre: Wireless Internet**

## Why in News

Recently, **Bharat Air Fibre Services** have been inaugurated at **Akola in Maharashtra** providing the residents **wireless internet connections** on demand.

## **Key Points**

- The Bharat Air Fibre services are being introduced by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
  as a part of the <u>Digital India</u> initiative by the Government of India. It is being scaled pan-India.
- Aim: To provide BSNL fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) wireless connectivity up to a range of 20 km from the BSNL points of presence.
- Features:
  - The connectivity speed is 100 Mbps and BSNL is offering various broadband plans in wireline and wireless segments.
    - There is a huge demand for high-speed broadband service in the present situation as there is the <u>migration</u> of people from metro cities to rural areas due to the <u>Covid-19 pandemic</u>.
    - The service is becoming popular due to **Work from Home** (WFH), **e-learning**, **online shopping, gaming and entertainment,** etc. amidst **lockdowns**.
  - BSNL is also providing unlimited free voice calling.
- Mechanism: It provides high-speed broadband to subscribers of remote areas by bridging the gap of last-mile connectivity through <u>radio waves</u>.
  - A vast network of **Optical Fibre** has been laid by BSNL up to nearest Telephone Exchange or Mobile Tower and from there the connectivity is provided to subscribers over wireless.



## Benefits:

- Customers at remote locations will be benefitted as BSNL comes with the cheapest services with the support of Telecom Infrastructure Partners (TIPs).
- These services are wireless and there are very low chances of interruption in services locally.
- BSNL is tying up with local entrepreneurs/unemployed youth on revenue sharing basis thereby generating employment in rural areas.
  - They will earn a regular monthly income of about one lakh per month thereby **becoming self-reliant** under the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiative.
- This service could be a game-changer for rural areas as with a little integration of
   Internet of Things (IoT) and sensors, the moisture content of soil can be known on a
   real-time basis, so that irrigation can be planned, resulting in saving of water and
   thereby increasing productivity.
- Sensors can be tied to the neck of dairy cattle, enabling continuous recording of body temperature so as to know the exact time when milk output is best.

Source: PIB

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