

Wifi at Railway stations

May 17, 2021

In news- The railways has enabled free Wi-Fi at its 6000th station as the facility went live at Hazaribagh town of Jharkhand.

About the facility-

- The railways provided Wi-Fi facility first at the **Mumbai Railway station in 2016.**
- Wi-fi at **5000th station** was provided at **Midnapore in West Bengal.**
- On May 15, 2021 Jarapada station in Angul District of Odisha was also provided with Wi-Fi facility.
- The Wi-Fi facility at railway stations are meant to meet the objectives of the 'Digital India' programme.
- This will **bridge the digital divide** between the rural and urban citizens thereby maximizing the **digital footprint** in the rural villages as well as enhance the user experience.
- Provision of Wi-Fi facility at stations is being provided on a self-sustainable basis with no cost to the railways.
- It is carried out with the help of **RailTel**, a PSU under the Ministry of Railways in partnership with **Google, Department of Telecommunication** (under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), **PGCIL and Tata Trust.**
- **Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh** are the top three states with more stations being Wi-fi connected (as of May 2021).

More information – [RailTel – JournalsOfIndia](#)