

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 701
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd JULY, 2022**

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES IN ODISHA

701. Dr. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of activities being undertaken for the development of communication facilities in the State of Odisha;
- (b) the expected period of completion of these activities; and
- (c) the benefits that would accrue to the people of Odisha due to such developmental activities?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) & (b) Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) provide telecommunication connectivity in the country in a phased manner. Government has taken various initiatives under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to improve telecommunication facilities/connectivity in the country including the state of Odisha. The details of the USOF Schemes/projects for the State of Odisha are as below:

- i. Provision of mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas under Phase-I: 256 sites are already providing telecom connectivity in Odisha under this scheme.
- ii. Provision of 4G mobile services in LWE affected areas under Phase-II: 483 number of MHA identified locations in Odisha are being provided with mobile connectivity.
- iii. Provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 7287 uncovered villages of Aspirational Districts in five States (namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha): 3933 number of villages of Odisha are being provided with mobile connectivity.
- iv. BharatNet project is implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) of the country including the State of Odisha. The Status of BharatNet project in Odisha is as under:

OFC laid (km)	Service Ready GPs on OFC	Service Ready GPs on Satellite	Total Service Ready GPs (OFC + Satellite)
32372	6708	38	6746

(c) The people of Odisha get benefited by accessing the telecom services like online banking, online education, e-health, e-governance, etc. using telecom infrastructure being developed through USOF.
