GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1204 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16th DECEMBER, 2022

INSTALLATION OF 5G TOWERS

1204 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of 5G towers installed in India, as of November 2022, State/UT-wise and company-wise details thereof;
- (b) the company-wise tower installation done weekly, as of November 2022;
- (c) the number of 5G users in the country, as of November 2022, and additional users expected to be added by 2023;
- (d) whether the expected timeline for achieving pan-India 5G connectivity has been ascertained, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government is considering any policy measures to speed up 5G capacity installation in the country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

- (a) Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have started providing 5G services in the country from 01.10.2022 onwards. As on 26.11.2022, 20980 base stations have been installed in 14 States/UTs (Annexure).
- (b) On an average, TSPs are installing approximately 2,500 base stations per week.
- (c) TSPs have reported that they are presently providing 5G services to their subscribers, having 5G enabled devices, at no extra cost. Presently, separate count of 5G users is not being maintained by TSPs.
- (d) As per the Notice Inviting Application (NIA) dated 15-06-2022 for auction of spectrum and the license conditions, the rollout obligations are required to be met over a period of five years, in a phased manner, from the date of allocation of spectrum. Further expansion of mobile networks beyond the mandatory rollout obligations, depends on the techno-commercial consideration of the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs).
- (e) In order to speed up the 5G capacity installation in the country, the Government has taken a series of policy initiatives such as:
 - i. Additional spectrum has been made available for mobile services.
 - ii. Further, spectrum sharing, trading, leasing and surrender has been permitted as per extant NIA terms & conditions and guidelines issued from time-to-time.
 - iii. Procedure for SACFA siting clearance for Low Power BTS/ small cells i.e Micro, Pico and Femto cells on existing street furniture/infrastructure has been simplified.
 - iv. Procedure for application and time-bound permission for usage of street furniture for installation of small cells and telegraph line has been specified in Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2022.
 - v. GatiShakti Sanchar portal has been launched to facilitate and expedite Right of Way permissions, by providing a single interface between all stake holders including Central and State/UT Government(s), Local bodies, and Service Providers.

Annexure referred to in part (a) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1204 to be answered on 16.12.2022

State/UT-wise and TSP-wise count of 5G base stations as on 26.11.2022:

Sl no	State/UT	Count of base stations		Total
		Airtel	Reliance Jio	
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	12	12
2	Assam	52	-	52
3	Bihar	38	-	38
4	Delhi	938	4891	5829
5	Gujarat	42	2850	2892
6	Haryana	32	-	32
7	Karnataka	325	1346	1671
8	Kerala	6	-	6
9	Maharashtra	689	3362	4051
10	Rajasthan	32	56	88
11	Tamil Nādu	651	1578	2229
12	Telangana	424	1120	1544
13	Uttar Pradesh	49	268	317
14	West Bengal	15	2204	2219
	Total	3293	17687	20980
