

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 238
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2023**

DISTRICTS DEPRIVED OF 4G NETWORK

238 # Shri Naresh Bansal:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many districts in the country are still deprived of 4G network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of districts deprived of 4G network including that of Uttarakhand; and
- (d) the time by which 4G services will reach the said deprived districts and villages completely?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) As per data received from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Department of Telecom's field unit and State Governments as of March '2022, out of 6,44,131 villages (villages are as per data of Registrar General of India as of November 2019) in the country, around 5,98,951 (93%) villages are having 4G mobile network and 45,180 number of villages are not having 4G mobile coverage. In the State of Uttarakhand, out of 16,456 villages, around 15,215 (92.46%) villages are covered with 4G mobile network. The State/UT-wise details are attached as **Annexure-I**.

(d) Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) provide telecommunication connectivity in the country in a phased manner. Government through funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is implementing various schemes for providing mobile network coverage in all uncovered villages of the country. The major USOF schemes for 4G mobile coverage are as below:

- Saturation of 4G mobile services in uncovered villages across the country. The estimated project cost is Rs. 26,316 Cr.
- Provision of 4G mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-II. The estimated project cost is Rs. 2,211 Cr.
- Upgradation from 2G to 4G mobile technology of all LWE Phase-I sites. The estimated project cost is Rs. 2,425 Cr.
- Provision of 4G Mobile Services in North Eastern Region of the country under Comprehensive Telecom Development Program for NER. The estimated cost for schemes is Rs. 3,637 Cr.
- Provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 7,287 Aspirational District villages (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha) and provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 502 uncovered villages of Aspirational Districts in four States (namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan). The estimated cost for projects is Rs. 7,152 Cr.
- Provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 354 uncovered villages of J&K, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Border area & other priority areas. The estimated project cost is Rs. 337 Cr.
- Provision of 4G Mobile Coverage in 85 uncovered Villages and seamless 4G Mobile coverage of NH223 in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The estimated project cost is Rs. 130 Cr.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 238 to be answered on 03/02/2023 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Districts deprived of 4G Network"

State/UT-wise status of 4G coverage in the villages of country (as of March'2022) is as below:

Sr. No.	State/UT Name	Total no. of Villages as per RGI Data (30-11-2019)	No of mobile covered villages with 4G	Number of villages without 4G coverage
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	559	105	454
2	Andhra Pradesh	17328	14159	3169
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5993	2262	3731
4	Assam	26429	24223	2206
5	Bihar	44888	44575	313
6	Chhattisgarh	20072	17482	2590
7	Chandigarh	NA	NA	NA
8	Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	95	62	33
9	Goa	392	342	50
10	Gujarat	18425	17604	821
11	Haryana	6640	6629	11
12	Himachal Pradesh	20852	18970	1882
13	Jammu And Kashmir	6474	5643	831
14	Jharkhand	32370	30050	2320
15	Karnataka	29818	28634	1184
16	Kerala	1438	1358	80
17	Ladakh	243	92	151
18	Lakshadweep	27	10	17
19	Madhya Pradesh	55058	51818	3240
20	Maharashtra	43931	40138	3793
21	Manipur	2612	2069	543
22	Meghalaya	7100	4580	2520
23	Mizoram	867	618	249
24	Nagaland	1535	1073	462
25	NCT of Delhi	55	55	0
26	Odisha	51176	43584	7592
27	Puducherry	96	95	1
28	Punjab	12534	12519	15
29	Rajasthan	46077	42343	3734
30	Sikkim	461	157	304
31	Tamil Nadu	16488	15916	572
32	Telangana	10203	9951	252
33	Tripura	937	638	299
34	Uttar Pradesh	105531	105146	385
35	Uttarakhand	16456	15215	1241
36	West Bengal	40971	40836	135
	Total	644131	598951	45180
