

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1930
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2024**

INTERNET SERVICE IN ODISHA

1930 SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) updated details on the 3G/4G internet coverage in Odisha including percentage of villages that are not connected by internet;
- (b) updated details on the number of new mobile towers installed in the Odisha particularly in Mayurbhanj district in the past five years;
- (c) the details of the progress made by the Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Odisha;
- (d) whether Government has taken cognizance of the troubles faced by the people especially students, due to the poor internet connectivity considering the rapid digitalization of education; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for such poor internet connectivity in many parts of the State?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) Out of 51,176 villages in the Odisha (as per Registrar General of India), around 47,922 (93.64%) villages have mobile coverage, while, 46,930 (91.70%) villages are covered with 3G/4G mobile connectivity.
- (b) 1,646 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) have been installed in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha in the past 5 years.
- (c) to (e) Mobile coverage for inhabited uncovered villages is provided by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in a phased manner based on their techno-commercial viability. Further, Government is implementing various schemes / projects under Digital Bharat Nidhi (erstwhile USOF) for expansion of telecom connectivity through installation of mobile towers in rural, remote and hilly areas of the country including Odisha. The Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan is for providing coverage to North-Eastern Region and Islands. The details of ongoing DBN projects for expansion of mobile services in Odisha are as follows:
 - 1) Saturation of 4G mobile services in uncovered villages
 - 2) Left Wing Extremism Phase-II
 - 3) 7287 uncovered villages in Aspirational District
 - 4) Left Wing Extremism Phase-I upgradation project
