GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2107 ANSWERED ON 7TH AUGUST, 2025

4G NETWORK CONNECTIVITY IN TRIBAL ODISHA

2107 SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of mobile tower installation in tribal regions of Odisha;
- (b) the number of villages still unconnected;
- (c) the role of BSNL and private operators;
- (d) the timeline for 100 per cent coverage; and
- (e) whether special funds have been used?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) In Odisha, out of 51,176 villages (as per data of Registrar General of India), 49,255 villages are covered with mobile connectivity and out of these, 48,490 villages have 4G mobile connectivity. Out of 19,519 tribal villages in Odisha, 18,302 villages have mobile connectivity.

Total 98,848 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) are providing mobile connectivity in Odisha. Of these, 88,360 BTSs have been installed by private telecom service providers and 10,488 BTSs have been installed by BSNL.

Mobile coverage for any uncovered inhabited villages is provided by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) based on the techno-commercial viability. Government, through funding from Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), is implementing various schemes for expansion of telecom connectivity through installation of mobile towers in the rural, remote and tribal areas of the country, including Odisha. As on June 2025, 3,113 towers have been commissioned in Odisha under DBN funded mobile schemes, providing mobile coverage to 4,491 villages.

As of June 2025, Rs. 3,934 crores have been disbursed to Odisha under various DBN schemes, including for provisioning of mobile network connectivity in rural, remote and tribal regions.
