

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2093
ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2025**

BHARATNET PROJECT IN MAHARASHTRA

2093 SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages in Maharashtra connected under the BharatNet project;
- (b) the timeline for providing high-speed internet to remaining areas;
- (c) whether mobile connectivity has been strengthened in remote and tribal areas of the State; and
- (d) the number of new telecom towers and 5G sites commissioned during the last two years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) In Maharashtra, 24,575 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made service ready till 30.11.2025 under BharatNet. Amended BharatNet program (ABP) is proposed to be implemented to provide connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) and to Non- Gram Panchayat (GPs) villages on the demand basis. The infrastructure created under BharatNet can be utilized by Service Providers to provide broadband services, such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections, leased lines, dark fibre, backhaul to mobile towers, etc. The timeline for completion of the construction phase under the ABP is three years from the date of sign of agreement.

(c) & (d) Mobile connectivity has been strengthened in remote and tribal areas of Maharashtra through various initiatives undertaken by the Department of Telecommunications, such as the 4G Saturation Scheme and the LTE-II Scheme. Since April 2023, a total of 9,698 new telecom towers and 33,758 new 5G BTS have been commissioned up to 31 October 2025 in the state of Maharashtra.
