

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 499
ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2025**

MOBILE NETWORK IN BORDER DISTRICTS OF ODISHA

499 # SMT. MAMATA MOHANTA:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the difficulties local people face in availing Government schemes, ambulance services and police assistance, due to the lack of mobile network in most backward and border districts of Odisha, even today;
- (b) whether the Ministry has implemented any special schemes to expand network coverage, install towers and improve digital connectivity in those districts; and
- (c) the details of progress made in recent years and the steps taken to completely eliminate these problems in future?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) In Odisha, out of 51,176 villages (as per data of Registrar General of India), 49,614 villages are covered with mobile connectivity and 49,025 villages have 4G mobile connectivity.

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 border areas of the country, including Odisha. As of October 2025, 3,355 towers have been commissioned in Odisha under these schemes, providing mobile coverage to 4,915 villages.
