

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4335
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02ND APRIL, 2026**

EXPANSION OF TELECOM CONNECTIVITY IN BIHAR

4335 # DR. BHIM SINGH:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mobile towers, 4G/5G sites and Gram Panchayats connected under BharatNet project for expansion of telecom connectivity in Bihar during the last five years, along with district-wise details of current status of network coverage and internet speed in urban and rural areas; and
- (b) the special steps taken to improve the quality of communication services, reduce call drops and bridge the digital divide in remote, flood-affected and backward districts of the State and if the desired improvement has not been achieved, the major reasons therefor along with the time-bound action plan proposed for the same?

ANSWER

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

(a): At present, 1,57,093 mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) are installed in the State of Bihar, out of which 30,055 4G BTS and 28,387 5G BTS have been installed during the last five years. Additionally, at present, 8,340 Gram Panchayats in the State have been made service-ready under the BharatNet Project including 47 GPs made service-ready during last 5 years. District-wise details of the current status of mobile network coverage in urban and rural areas are attached as **Annexure-I**.

As per performance monitoring report published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the month of February 2026, details of download and upload speed for Bihar License Service Area is as under:

S. No.	Telecom Service Provider	Measured Download Speed (in Megabits per second)	Measured Upload Speed (in Megabits per second)
1	Bharti Airtel Limited	133	32
2	BSNL	7.4	4.5
3	Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited	264.88	43.26
4	Vodafone Idea Limited	65.78	36.23

(b): Government has taken several measures to enhance mobile network infrastructure and improve the quality of communication services including call drops and to bridge the divide in the country:

- i. Uncovered villages are being provided coverage under various Digital Bharat Nidhi schemes.
- ii. Assignment of sufficient spectrum for mobile services through auction.

- iii. Spectrum sharing, trading and surrender has been permitted for efficient use of spectrum.
- iv. Simplification of Procedure for SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocations) clearance.
- v. Notification of Telecommunications Right of Way (RoW) Rules and launch of PM GatiShakti Sanchar portal has resulted in streamlining of RoW permissions and expeditious clearance for installation of telecom infrastructure.
- vi. TRAI has revised Quality of Service benchmarks on 02.08.2024 applicable from 01.10.2024 for various parameters, and performance of service providers against the benchmark is regularly monitored by TRAI to ensure better quality of services.

Further, under Digital Bharat Nidhi funded 4G Mobile Saturation Project, 383 number of 4G mobile towers have been made on-air in the State of Bihar since 2021.

Annexure-I

S.N.	District Name	Rural Areas	
		Total Villages	Villages covered with mobile services
1	Araria	742	742
2	Arwal	316	316
3	Aurangabad	1849	1848
4	Banka	2111	2110
5	Begusarai	1146	1146
6	Bhagalpur	1520	1520
7	Bhojpur	1217	1216
8	Buxar	1134	1134
9	Darbhanga	1249	1249
10	Gaya	2887	2882
11	Gopalganj	1535	1534
12	Jamui	1506	1495
13	Jehanabad	584	584
14	Kaimur (Bhabua)	1692	1684
15	Katihar	1534	1534
16	Khagaria	301	301
17	Kishanganj	771	771
18	Lakhisarai	472	471
19	Madhepura	440	440
20	Madhubani	1111	1111
21	Munger	862	858
22	Muzaffarpur	1790	1790
23	Nalanda	1050	1049
24	Nawada	1091	1087
25	Pashchim Champaran	1485	1471
26	Patna	1405	1405
27	Purba Champaran	1296	1296
28	Purnia	1273	1273
29	Rohtas	2072	2068
30	Saharsa	467	467
31	Samastipur	1250	1250
32	Saran	1732	1732
33	Sheikhpura	314	314
34	Sheohar	203	203
35	Sitamarhi	836	836
36	Siwan	1530	1530
37	Supaul	551	551
38	Vaishali	1564	1564
	Grand Total	44,888	44,832

All urban areas are covered with mobile services.
