

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1297
ANSWERED ON 30th JULY, 2026**

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

1297 SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has accelerated the rollout of 5G services and digital connectivity across urban, rural and border areas;
- (b) the State-wise details of telecom towers installed and villages connected during the last three years, particularly in Gujarat;
- (c) whether additional initiatives are proposed for improving telecom infrastructure in remote and coastal areas; and
- (d) the expected impact on digital governance, education, healthcare and economic development?

ANSWER

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

- (a) 5G services have been rolled out in all States/ UTs across the country and presently it is available in 99.9% of the districts in the country. As on 30.06.2026, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have installed 5.62 Lakhs 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) across the country.

Further, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has notified the Telecommunication (Right of Way) Rules, 2024 under the Telecommunications Act, 2023 for rapid expansion of digital communications infrastructure and high-speed broadband connectivity across the country including the urban, rural and border areas.

- (b) State-wise count of number of mobile towers installed and villages connected across the country including Gujarat, during the last three years are placed at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively.
- (c) For improving telecom infrastructure across the country including remote and coastal areas, Government has taken several initiatives, which, inter-alia, include the following:
 - (i) Launch of centralized Right of Way (RoW) portal on May 14, 2022 to streamline the RoW permissions for the deployment of telecom infrastructure viz. optical fiber cable (OFC) laying and telecom tower installation.
 - (ii) BharatNet project for providing broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages.

- (iii) 4G Saturation scheme to provide 4G mobile coverage in all uncovered villages.
 - (iv) Scheme for providing mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas and in Aspirational Districts.
 - (v) Commissioning of Submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and between Kochi and Lakshadweep Islands.
- (d) With high speed, enhanced reliability and low latency, and massive machine type communications features, 5G has potential to expand the mobile ecosystem into new realms impacting every industry and social sectors such as Agriculture, Healthcare, Manufacturing & Industrial Automation, Mining, Education, Energy and Grid Power, Automotive Industry, Media and Entertainment etc. 5G is transforming digital governance by enabling real-time public services and high-speed connectivity.

The Central Government has setup 100 5G labs across the country to develop 5G use cases and related applications with an outlay of ₹97.67 crores. These initiatives aim to foster an ecosystem where students, startups, and researchers can develop and test sector-specific (e.g. healthcare, agriculture, education, power sector) innovative 5G indigenous solutions, and propel the country into the forefront of usage of 5G technology. All 100 5G labs have been installed, commissioned, and are currently operational.

Annexure-I

Sr. No.	State/UT	State-wise count of number of mobile towers installed				
		As on 30.06.2026	As on 31.03.2026	As on 31.03.2025	As on 31.03.2024	As on 31.03.2023
1	Andaman & Nicobar (UT)	507	496	442	401	357
2	Andhra Pradesh	30648	30553	28825	27960	26401
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2624	2599	2226	2023	1676
4	Assam	19851	19785	19197	18793	17803
5	Bihar	46657	46706	45579	44497	41712
6	Chandigarh (UT)	1214	1214	1224	1232	1197
7	Chhattisgarh	18844	18638	17516	16129	15430
8	Delhi	25656	25655	25270	24790	23923
9	Goa	1790	1782	1741	1715	1684
10	Gujarat	51977	51781	49244	46638	44317
11	Haryana	26834	27139	26573	25716	24521
12	Himachal Pradesh	10194	10135	9683	9289	8957
13	Jammu & Kashmir	12428	12324	11738	11559	10977
14	Jharkhand	23662	23688	22959	22349	21237
15	Karnataka	51624	51416	49976	49643	47818
16	Kerala	25150	24965	23890	22140	20863
17	Ladakh	886	883	657	609	564
18	Lakshadweep (UT)	57	57	41	37	34
19	Madhya Pradesh	45500	45353	43470	40804	38667
20	Maharashtra	91223	90694	86170	83233	79053
21	Manipur	2785	2782	2676	2656	2635
22	Meghalaya	2732	2693	2522	2465	2324
23	Mizoram	1402	1387	1363	1340	1288
24	Nagaland	2040	2020	1747	1697	1609
25	Odisha	32522	32222	30083	28186	25595
26	Puducherry (UT)	823	822	816	800	749
27	Punjab	24980	24925	24520	24200	23370
28	Rajasthan	46322	46095	44529	43768	40481
29	Sikkim	792	791	757	760	751
30	Tamil Nadu	51091	50982	50164	49398	47071
31	Telangana	31688	31566	30796	30122	28655
32	Tripura	2806	2794	2687	2663	2577
33	UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	591	580	525	488	458
34	Uttar Pradesh	105341	104702	101218	97590	91383
35	Uttarakhand	10888	10834	10487	9880	9387
36	West Bengal	54257	53885	52969	51201	48543
Grand Total		858386	854943	824280	796771	754067

Annexure-II

Sr. No.	State / UT	Total Villages as per RGI Data list	No. of villages covered with Mobile network(2G/3G/4G)			
			As on 28.02.2023	As on 31.03.2024	As on 31.03.2025	As on 31.03.2026
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	559	348	377	401	433
2	Andhra Pradesh	17328	14490	15456	16515	16964
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5993	3367	3909	4194	4860
4	Assam	26429	24508	25447	25983	26266
5	Bihar	44888	44679	44691	44796	44844
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	20072	18692	18927	19162	19324
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	95	95	95	95	95
9	Goa	392	301	343	344	355
10	Gujarat	18425	17865	17933	18071	18213
11	Haryana	6640	6635	6637	6639	6639
12	Himachal Pradesh	20852	19931	20009	20180	20348
13	Jammu and Kashmir	6474	6006	6060	6154	6227
14	Jharkhand	32370	30271	31796	31905	32167
15	Karnataka	29818	29009	28952	29211	29380
16	Kerala	1438	1389	1438	1438	1438
17	Ladakh	243	226	225	234	233
18	Lakshadweep	27	24	23	25	27
19	Madhya Pradesh	55058	52484	53114	53290	54171
20	Maharashtra	43931	40396	41228	41632	43074
21	Manipur	2612	2120	2131	2215	2427
22	Meghalaya	7100	5730	6141	6730	6983
23	Mizoram	867	744	737	740	815
24	Nagaland	1535	1179	1185	1232	1438
25	NCT of Delhi	55	55	55	55	55
26	Odisha	51176	45913	47208	49113	50044
27	Puducherry	96	96	96	96	96
28	Punjab	12534	12500	12529	12532	12532
29	Rajasthan	46077	42740	44216	45193	45535
30	Sikkim	461	157	446	453	455
31	Tamil Nadu	16488	16252	16219	16472	16485
32	Telangana	10203	9962	9965	9962	9995
33	Tripura	937	794	687	707	930
34	Uttar Pradesh	105531	105329	105436	105475	105495
35	Uttarakhand	16456	15510	15508	16367	16399
36	West Bengal	40971	40941	40944	40956	40962
Grand Total		644131	610738	620163	628567	635704
