

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2251
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2017**

MOBILE TOWERS

2251. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI BAHADUR SINGH KOLI:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mobile towers installed by BSNL and MTNL in the country, State/UT-wise along with the number of the said towers which are yet to be made operational, State/UT-wise along with the time by which the said towers are to be made functional;
- (b) whether these towers are adequate to offer smooth and uninterrupted telecom services offered by the said companies, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure uninterrupted and smooth mobile services in view of rapidly increasing country's telecom subscriber base;
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaint pertaining to such towers posing threat to public amenities, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government has laid down any norms regarding requisite number of mobile towers for prescribed subscriber base, and if so, the details thereof along with the number of companies violating the said norms and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) State/UT-wise details of mobile towers is at **Annexure-I**.

(b)&(c) So far BSNL is concerned, it has wide spread network covering the entire country. BSNL has covered District Headquarters as well as 434220 villages. Details is as per **Annexure-II**. The provision of mobile network being capital intensive, it can be done only in phased manner on techno commercial viability/feasibility. For further improvement of mobile services, BSNL keeps on expanding its network periodically. Presently Phase VII+ is under roll out and another tender of Phase VIII-4 is under evaluation.

Contd...2/-

So far MTNL is concerned, existing towers are inadequate for smooth and uninterrupted telecom services. MTNL has taken following steps to improve its 2G and 3G mobile network capabilities and provide better quality of service to its customers:

- (i) **Expansion of GSM (Global System for Mobile communication) / 3G RF network in Delhi:** For expansion of mobile network, purchase order for 1080 number of 3G sites for higher data handling capacity has been placed.
 - (ii) **3G Network Up-Gradation in Mumbai:** To upgrade the existing 3G network in Mumbai to make it a high speed network of 'HSPA+ (High Speed Packet Access) version', MTNL has placed purchase order. After the proposed up-gradation, the customers will get a download speed of 21.1 Mbps & upload speed of 5.76 Mbps which will be 6 times faster than present download speed and 10 times faster than present upload speed.
 - (iii) **Microwave Backhaul Connectivity:** Purchase order for adding 1554 Microwave Hops in Delhi and 470 in Mumbai has been placed to augment and improve the mobile network.
- (d) In case of EMF(Electro Magnetic Field) emissions related complaints, the same are handled by the concerned TERM(Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring)Cell in whose jurisdiction the case pertains. In case of non-compliance of the prescribed guidelines of DoT(Department of Telecommunications) in respect to EMF emissions, the financial penalty of Rs.Ten lakhs per BTS(Base Transceiver Station) is imposed on all the TSPs(Telecom Service Providers) present on the site alongwith shut-down of the site if the non-compliance persists for a month.
- In case of complaints related to non-observance of applicable by-laws and regulations of local bodies such as State Governments, Municipal Corporations, Gram Panchayats or any other local authority, the same is handled by concerned authorities.
- (e) No norms have been prescribed for setting up of mobile tower for a prescribed subscriber base. BTS are established at mobile towers by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) at suitable locations, as per their Radio Frequency (RF) network planning for proper coverage of the area and as per their service requirement to fulfil the license conditions.

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Annexure-I

S.N.	Name of the Circle	No. of places where mobile towers have been erected as on 31.12.2016	Number of places where mobile towers yet to be made functional as on 31.12.2016.
A	<u>BSNL:</u>		
1	Andman & Nicobar	152	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	5741	0
3	Assam	1341	0
4	Bihar	1903	8
5	Chhattisgarh	1642	127
6	Gujrat	4578	19
7	Himachal Pradesh	957	14
8	Haryana	1557	0
9	J&K	1034	24
10	Jharkhand	1400	0
11	Kerla	4063	41
12	Karnataka	4049	0
13	Maharashtra	5880	81
14	Madhya Pradesh	4558	0
15	North East-I	625	12
16	North East-II	676	23
17	Odisha	2400	123
18	Punjab	2319	15
19	Rajasthan	3942	182
20	Tamilnadu	4824	13
21	UP East	4782	80
22	UP West	2317	30
23	Uttranchal	1033	40
24	West Bengal	2258	72
25	Kolkatta TD	869	5
26	Channai TD	1515	0
Total		66415	909
B	<u>MTNL:</u>		
1	Delhi	1853	Nil
2	Mumbai	1670	Nil
Total		3523	Nil

Contd...4/-

No. of villages covered by BSNL's Cellular Mobile Services as on 31-01-2017

Sl. No.	Circle	No of Villages covered with cellular services as on 31-01-2017
1	Haryana	4477
2	Himachal Pradesh	17525
3	Jammu & Kashmir	5303
4	Punjab	11321
5	Rajasthan	26363
6	Uttarakhand	13507
7	Uttar Pradesh(East)	71852
8	Uttar Pradesh(West)	14315
9	Andaman & Nicobar	323
10	Assam	20291
11	Bihar	28045
12	Kolkata (TD)	437
13	Jharkhand	22398
14	North East I	2799
15	North East II	5022
16	Odisha	27897
17	West Bengal	25516
18	Chhattisgarh	12306
19	Gujarat	13238
20	Maharashtra	20975
21	Madhya Pradesh	30470
22	Andhra Pradesh	22633
23	Chennai (TD)	1515
24	Kerala	1489
25	Karnataka	22041
26	Tamilnadu	12162
	Total	434220
