

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2258
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2017**

RURAL TELECOM SERVICE

2258. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of mobile phone subscribers in the country, State/UT and operator-wise including BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) whether a large number of villages particularly in backward areas of the country are yet to be provided with the mobile phone connectivity and if so, the details thereof including the number of such villages, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the private telecom service providers are not launching mobile services in the backward areas and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard along with the other steps taken by the Government to bring mobile services to the said areas;
- (d) whether the Government has approved the long pending compensation for the BSNL for the deficit incurred in operating rural landline connections and if so, the details thereof including the source of the said compensation;
- (e) whether the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 would be amended for the said compensation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the said subsidy would be utilized to establish more rural landline connections across the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The State/UT-wise and operator-wise details of mobile phone subscribers in the country is at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) State-wise details of uncovered villages as per survey conducted in 2014 based on census 2011 may be seen at **Annexure-II**.

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(c) The private Telecom Service Providers (TSP) are not launching mobile services in the backward areas. The government has taken up the following schemes to bring mobile services to the said areas:

- **Left Wing Extremist (LWE) areas:** Government has provided 2186 Mobile towers at locations, as identified by MHA (Ministry of Home Affairs), in 10 states in areas affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE).
- **North-East Region (NER):** Government has approved the scheme to provide mobile connectivity to 8621 villages of NER included as part of Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for NER.
- **Islands:** Schemes to connect 172 villages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been approved in December 2016.

(d) Yes. TRAI had recommended for continuation of support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to BSNL for sustenance of rural wire line connections installed before 01.04.2002 w.e.f 18.07.2011. The amount of support for the first year of Rs. 1500 Crore has been paid to BSNL in FY 2013-14 and support of Rs. 1250 Crore has been approved for payment in 2016-17.

(e) Amendment to the Indian Telegraph Rules 1951 by way of gazette notification is under process.

(f) The subsidy support is for rural landline connections installed by BSNL prior to 01.04.2002.

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State/UT-wise and Operator-wise details of subscribers in the country (as on 31.12.2016)

	States/Circle	BSNL	MTNL	Bharti	Reliance	Vodafore	Tata	Idea	Aircel	Telenor	Sistema	Quardant	R-Jio
1	Andhra Pradesh	9820986	--	25112612	3681215	7030425	4023233	17448973	2544880	5634582	--	--	6356061
2	Assam	1417734	--	6281027	1358951	3920440	--	1293198	5663035	--	--	--	979779
3	Bihar	4024249	--	30102995	3269964	9706144	1477175	12040995	7436130	10138958	--	--	4060254
4	Delhi	--	2327549	11366485	5815374	10516019	1687228	6368028	6731212	--	699544	--	5370396
5	Gujarat	4324899	--	8754131	9925364	19750344	2584076	12850449	17063	8424971	155976	--	5593057
6	Haryana	3578717	--	3382750	1574039	5791557	2649113	5042697	3092	--	--	--	1918855
7	Himachal Pradesh	1990138	--	2932704	1580165	745499	52991	815885	1119545	--	--	--	665843
8	Jammu & Kashmir	1471105	--	3505002	949459	980533	--	623267	2867502	--	--	--	875883
9	Karnataka	6876305	--	22001544	5218438	7911034	6749222	9630391	3365649	--	853274	--	4521864
10	Kerala	6886761	--	4567433	1492938	7692872	1393031	11018971	378558	--	261063	--	2414402
11	Kolkata	856129	--	4909018	4318179	5589894	2580243	2541949	4314664	--	430489	--	2603998
12	Madhya Pradesh	4745564	--	13665329	9370161	6749495	4416062	23496338	20694	--	--	--	4012836
13	Maharashtra	6445149	--	13998508	4393692	18894289	5681044	25488200	2773255	8098638	--	--	4994893
14	Mumbai	--	1298346	6164308	4707876	8983030	2758760	4428983	2970326	--	--	--	3314694
15	North East	1647856	--	4102960	368596	1606835	--	610574	3384813	--	--	--	571525
16	Odisha	4807936	--	10981096	2121470	4352964	1982403	2042172	4664702	--	--	--	1841478
17	Punjab	4468872	--	8408589	1712133	5260726	2483534	6609685	1151413	--	--	2999158	3284526
18	Rajasthan	5126562	--	20423230	5965929	12082927	1317865	8074084	6663523	--	1625425	--	3595620
19	Tamil Nadu	8885962	--	18317695	5354554	16348225	4100347	6422898	21705386	--	555764	--	4846319
20	Uttar Pradesh (E)	10510884	--	22524622	8380772	19716657	3600127	11778588	7158862	13718269	--	--	4212075
21	Uttar Pradesh (W)	5325719	--	8696883	5466988	11851566	3076434	15679475	844454	8454081	112436	--	3697898
22	West Bengal	1776353	--	15653684	3518673	19205455	364898	6212076	5096795	--	1183642	--	2425388
	Total :	96787880	3625895	265852605	86544929	204686930	52977786	190517876	90875553	54469499	5877613	2999158	72157644

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Annexure-II**State-wise list of Uncovered Villages as per survey conducted in 2014 based on census 2011**

Sr.No.	Name of the State/UT	Total number of inhabited villages	No. of Uncovered Villages
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16335	3812
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	2886
3.	Assam	25372	2885
4.	Bihar	39073	2534
5.	Chhattisgarh	19567	4041
6.	Goa	320	65
7.	Gujarat	17843	1275
8.	Haryana	6642	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17882	2416
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6337	460
11.	Jharkhand	29492	5949
12.	Karnataka	27397	0
13.	Kerala	1017	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	51929	5926
15.	Maharashtra	40959	4792
16.	Manipur	2515	610
17.	Meghalaya	6459	2389
18.	Mizoram	704	258
19.	Nagaland	1400	137
20.	Odisha	47675	10398
21.	Punjab	12168	91
22.	Rajasthan	43264	770
23.	Sikkim	425	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	15049	113
25.	Telangana	10347	1009
26.	Tripura	863	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	97814	266
28.	Uttarakhand	15745	1876
29.	West Bengal	37469	487
30.	Andaman & Nicobar	684	190
31.	Puducherry		0
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		5
33.	Daman & Diu		1
34.	Lakshadweep		1
	TOTAL	597608	55669
