

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2012  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**MOBILE TOWERS INSTALLED BY BSNL AND MTNL**

†2012. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of mobile towers of MTNL and BSNL is inadequate to meet the demand of their total customers;
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government to increase the network capacity of the said companies;
- (c) whether a number of towers installed by BSNL particularly in rural and hilly areas are not functioning;
- (d) if so, the details of the non-functioning and removed towers State/UT-wise including the State of Maharashtra; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard along with the funds allocated for the said purpose?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Setting up of mobile towers is an ongoing process and is carried out to provide coverage and capacity, based upon factors such as traffic volume, number of customers, development of new localities etc. At present Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has 1,26,334 BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) working in its Licenses Service Areas(LSAs). However, to further improve its network, BSNL has finalised Phase-VIII.4 GSM expansion project for the following:

- Replacement of old equipment having high operational cost & AMC.
- Addition of 3G capacity for increasing 3G footprint.
- Introduction of 4G services.

The project will add 53,398 BTSs (2G+3G+4G) throughout the country.

At present, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has 3,594 BTSs in Delhi and Mumbai. MTNL is adding 1080 BTSs (3G) in Delhi and upgrading 720 BTSs (3G) in Mumbai.

(c) to (e) As on 28.02.2018, 585 mobile towers of BSNL are not functioning including 81 mobile towers in Maharashtra. The BSNL Circle-wise details of non-functional towers is at **Annexure.**

BSNL will make these non-functional towers functional during the next financial year based on assessment of techno commercial viability.

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Details of non functional towers of BSNL

S.No.	Circle	Non-functional towers
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0
3	Assam	0
4	Bihar	1
5	Chhattisgarh	127
6	Gujarat	19
7	Haryana	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	0
9	Jammu & Kashmir	12
10	Jharkhand	0
11	Karnataka	0
12	Kerala	8
13	Madhya Pradesh	0
14	Maharashtra	81
15	North East - 1	0
16	North East - 2	2
17	Odisha	123
18	Punjab	1
19	Rajasthan	104
20	Tamil Nadu	9
21	Uttrakhand	0
22	Uttar Pradesh (East)	0
23	Uttar Pradesh (West)	28
24	West Bengal	65
25	Kolkatta	5
26	Chennai	0
	Total	585

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