

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 148
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th JULY, 2018**

BENEFITS OF COMMUNICATION TOWERS IN RURAL AREAS

†148. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the installation of communication towers in villages has increased social activities and e-governance employments based on the nearby areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of communications towers installed so far in the rural areas of country, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan and the number of such towers proposed to be installed in the current financial years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to install towers in tribal panchayat Uplagarh and Nichlagarh of Pindwara town in the State of Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of schemes formulated by the Government for opening joint service centres by including rural entrepreneurs of villages in the country State/UT-wise including Rajasthan??

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Madam. Mobile services provided by communication towers in villages do lead to increased social activities and e-governance employments. Mobile services give benefits to rural areas of the country in several ways, like access to critical weather information, know-how to improve agricultural output, social calls, e-governance, online education, mobile banking, public utility services, Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme, e-commerce, financial inclusion services, skill development services, access to social media among others.
- (b) The details of the Licensed Service Area (LSA)-wise towers installed in the country as on 1st July 2018 are as under:

Details of LSA wise towers installed as on 1-July-2018		
S. No.	LSA	Towers
1	Andhra Pradesh	37439
2	Assam	10717
3	Bihar	33630
4	Delhi	22427
5	Gujarat	27387
6	Himachal Pradesh	5239
7	Haryana	10390
8	Jammu & Kashmir	8346
9	Karnataka	29743
10	Kolkata	10680
11	Kerala	16223
12	Mumbai	14190
13	Maharashtra	36408
14	Madhya Pradesh	32193
15	North-East	6852
16	Odisha	15829
17	Punjab	18492
18	Rajasthan	25225
19	Tamil Nadu	38606
20	Uttar Pradesh (East)	30192
21	Uttar Pradesh(West)	25372
22	West Bengal	18868
Grand Total		474448

Information on breakup of towers on the basis of Rural/Urban Area is not being maintained. Network expansion depends on the business decisions of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and the same is not being maintained by the department.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) plans to install mobile Base Transceiver Station (BTS) in Village panchayat Uplagarh of Pindwara in Rajasthan. Further, one private TSP namely M/s Reliance Jio India Limited (RJIL) has planned to install a tower in panchayat Nichlagarh of Pindwara town in Rajasthan.

(d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTY), Government of India (GOI) has initiated a project namely "Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0" in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme, which aimed to set up of at least one CSC at Gram Panchayat (GP) level to cover all the 2.5 lakh GPs across the country.

The key objective of CSCs is to deliver various citizen centric services, such as, Government to Citizen (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) services, financial inclusion services, educational services, skill development services etc.

As on 30th June, 2018, the number of functional CSCs (Urban + Rural) across the Country is **3,05,226** CSCs, of which **2,10,314** CSCs were functional at Gram Panchayat level. The state/UT-wise details of the functional CSCs are provided in **Annexure**.

Annexure**STATE/UT-WISE STATUS OF FUNCTIONAL CSCs AS ON 30 JUNE, 2018**

S. No.	State/UT	Total FUNCTIONAL CSCs	Functional CSCs at GP level
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8295	5139
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79	59
3.	Assam	3250	2435
4.	Bihar	23589	17361
5.	Chhattisgarh	13332	10163
6.	Goa	50	37
7.	Gujarat	15216	9895
8.	Haryana	9722	6876
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3070	2269
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2134	1687
11.	Jharkhand	11891	7687
12.	Karnataka	6581	3562
13.	Kerala	2606	1671
14.	Madhya Pradesh	21736	16978
15.	Maharashtra	33723	25979
16.	Manipur	706	334
17.	Meghalaya	226	167
18.	Mizoram	151	116
19.	Nagaland	164	122
20.	Odisha	8761	6792
21.	Punjab	6941	4567
22.	Rajasthan	15048	11669
23.	Sikkim	33	26
24.	Tamil Nadu	9955	6321
25.	Telangana	6195	3835
26.	Tripura	479	380
27.	Uttar Pradesh	73984	48868
28.	Uttarakhand	5310	4460
29.	West Bengal	19190	10652
A	Total	302417	210107
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	58	53
2.	Chandigarh	141	24
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	28	12
4.	Daman & Diu	14	8
5.	Delhi	2373	0
6.	Lakshadweep	8	12
7.	Puducherry	187	98
B	Total	2809	207
C	A+B	305226	210314
