

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2376
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH DECEMBER, 2018**

MOBILE INTERNET PENETRATION

2376. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Mobile internet penetration in rural areas of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the availability of affordable smart phones and feature phones and better internet connectivity at affordable rates by telecom providers have played a significant role in the adoption of mobile internet;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether mobile internet is predominantly used by youngsters of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the number of urban users and rural users under the age of 25, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) whether urban areas have around twice the proportion of internet users over the age of 45, while the age group of 25 to 44 has almost equal distribution of internet users in urban and rural areas and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Madam, the License Service Area (LSA)-wise Mobile Internet Penetration (per 100 population) in Rural areas of the country is attached as **Annexure-I**.
- (b) & (c) Provisioning of better infrastructure by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), deployment of latest technology, expansion of network, deployment of additional spectrum, consolidation of networks through mergers and acquisitions, competitive tariff plans offered by TSPs and availability of cheaper mobile handset have played a significant role in the adoption of mobile internet. Details are annexed as **Annexure-II**.
- (d) to (f) The department does not maintain demographic details in respect of distribution of internet users in urban/rural area.

ANNEXURE-I

Mobile Internet Penetration in rural India as on 30.09.2018		
S.No.	LSA	Internet Penetration (per 100)
1	Andhra Pradesh	26.74
2	Assam	18.78
3	Bihar	14.93
4	Delhi	98.03
5	Gujarat	27.37
6	Haryana	27.11
7	Himachal Pradesh	43.36
8	Jammu & Kashmir	26.09
9	Karnataka	27.40
10	Kerala	31.04
11	Madhya Pradesh	14.84
12	Maharashtra	27.86
13	North East	25.66
14	Orissa	21.55
15	Punjab	36.60
16	Rajasthan	24.36
17	Tamil Nadu	41.98
18	Uttar Pradesh	15.35
19	West Bengal	17.80

Details of Mobile Internet Subscribers

Mobile Internet Subscribers (in Million)	
Quarter Ending June 2017	409.01
Quarter Ending September 2017	407.88
Quarter Ending December 2017	424.22
Quarter Ending March 2018	472.25
Quarter Ending June 2018	490.66

Percentage change from June 2017 to June 2018 is 19.96%
