

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.539  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019**

**4G SPEED**

539. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the news that 4G speed in India is the slowest in the world;
- (b) whether it is true that average 4G speed is slowest across the countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with comparison with other countries;
- (d) if so, whether the Government will find out the reasons and take appropriate measures to enhance 4G speed to bring it at par with other countries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the internet speed of the country will be made faster?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) analytics portal, the Telecom Service Provider-wise average download speed on 4G Technology in the country for the month of December 2018 is as per annexure. This TRAI result is based on the data speed samples collected on a crowd sourcing basis during speed tests initiated by users over the last six months. No authentic information is available to the Government on the average 4G speeds in other countries.

(d) to (f) The speed of mobile internet is dependent on a number of factors such as the number of users being served and the traffic handled by the cell, closeness to the tower serving the customer, the user equipment/mobile handset used by the customer etc. As such, the 4G mobile users may experience different speeds at different locations and time of usage.

In order to facilitate improvement in Quality of Services and expansion of telecommunication services including 4G-services, the Department of

Telecommunications has initiated a range of policy initiatives and development programs as below :-

- (i) making available sufficient spectrum for mobile services including auction of 965 MHz across different bands (700, 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands) in 2016.
- (ii) allowing spectrum sharing, trading and liberalisation of administratively allocated spectrum as per guidelines.
- (iii) permitting sharing of active as well as passive infrastructure by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) for achieving higher utilisation efficiency.
- (iv) permitting Internet Protocol (IP) based interconnections between TSPs in addition to the prevailing arrangements.
- (v) notification of Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 in November 2016 for regulating underground infrastructure (optical fibre) and over-ground infrastructure (mobile towers).
- (vi) periodic review of expansion of mobile networks and related improvements carried out by TSPs.

Network upgradation and improvement (including increase in Internet speed) is an ongoing process for each TSP, based on changing traffic volumes, customer needs and market competition.

**TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDER –WISE AVERAGE DOWNLOAD SPEED ON 4G  
TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER'2018**

Name of 4G Telecom Service Provider	Average Download 4G Speed (in Mbps)
M/s. Reliance Jio	20.8
M/s. Airtel	9.6
M/s. Vodafone	6.7
M/s. Idea	6.3

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