

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1310  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**MOBILE NETWORK COVERAGE IN TRIBAL AREAS**

**1310. SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has achieved 100% mobile network coverage in all tribal areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the tribal areas not having mobile network coverage till date, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure 100% mobile network coverage in all tribal areas?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (c) As per data provided from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Department of Telecom's field unit and State Governments as of March '2022, out of 1,20,613 villages (villages are as per data of Registrar General of India as of November 2019), with more than 25% tribal population in respective districts, around 1,00,030 (83%) number of villages are having mobile network coverage and 20,583 villages are not having any mobile coverage. The reasons for not having mobile network in these villages include, inter-alia, remote and tough terrain, areas diversely located with scattered population and commercially non-viable operations. The Union Cabinet has approved a project for 4G mobile coverage saturation to cover all such uncovered villages. The State/UT wise details of status of mobile network coverage in tribal area of the country is attached as **Annexure-I**.

(d) Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) provide telecommunication connectivity in the country in a phased manner. Government through funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is implementing various schemes for providing mobile network coverage in all remaining uncovered villages of the country including the villages of tribal areas to achieve 100% coverage.

**Annexure-I**

**Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1310 to be answered on 14/12/2022 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Mobile network coverage in tribal areas"**

The State/UT wise details of status of mobile network coverage in tribal villages of the country is:-

Sr No	State/UT Name	Number of district(with tribal population>25%)	Number of village	Number of mobile covered village	Number of mobile uncovered village
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	200	72	128
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0		0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	16	4559	2314	2245
4	Assam	7	7388	6584	804
5	Bihar	0	0	0	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	19	14119	12378	1741
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	70	37	33
9	Goa	0	0	0	0
10	Gujarat	11	5852	5600	252
11	Haryana	0	0	0	0
12	Himachal Pradesh	3	2772	1886	886
13	Jammu & Kashmir	3	819	739	80
14	Jharkhand	13	16382	15001	1381
15	Karnataka	0	0	0	0
16	Kerala	0	0	0	0
17	Ladakh	2	243	124	119
18	Lakshadweep	1	27	23	4
19	Madhya Pradesh	19	18746	17293	1453
20	Maharashtra	5	6158	4796	1362
21	Manipur	5	1137	872	265
22	Meghalaya	8	5623	3583	2040
23	Mizoram	8	771	553	218
24	Nagaland	11	1535	1115	420
25	NCT of Delhi	0	0	0	0
26	Odisha	14	24013	18240	5773
27	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
28	Punjab	0	0	0	0
29	Rajasthan	6	7741	6960	781
30	Sikkim	4	461	157	304
31	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0
32	Telangana	1	358	358	0
33	Tripura	5	639	418	221
34	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0
35	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0
36	West Bengal	2	1000	927	73
Total		165	120613	100030	20583

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