

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2499
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022**

INSTALLATION OF MOBILE TOWERS IN REMOTE VILLAGES

**†2499. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL:
SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether mobile towers are still not installed in various remote villages across the country;
- (b) if so, the time by which the vision related with communication revolution in remote villages is likely to be fulfilled;
- (c) whether the demand for installation of BSNL mobile towers in various villages of Chitrakoot and Banda district of Uttar Pradesh and in various villages of number of districts of Rajasthan has been persistent for a long time, if so, the detail thereof;
- (d) whether the Government contemplates to start 5G services in Chitrakoot and Banda, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has started 4G services in Rajasthan, if so, the district-wise details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the time by which it is likely to be started along with the action taken in this regard so far?

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

(a) & (b) As per data received from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Department of Telecom's field unit and State Governments as of March '2022, out of 6,44,131 villages (villages are as per data of Registrar General of India as of November 2019) in the country, around 6,05,230 villages are having mobile coverage and 38,901 villages are not having mobile towers and coverage. 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 uncovered villages of the country. The major USOF schemes are as below:

- Saturation of 4G mobile services in uncovered villages across the country. The estimated project cost is Rs. 26,316 Cr.

- Provision of 4G mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-II. The estimated project cost is Rs. 2211 Cr.
 - Upgradation from 2G to 4G mobile technology of all LWE Phase-I sites. The estimated project cost is Rs. 2425 Cr.
 - Provision of 4G Mobile Services in North Eastern Region of the country under Comprehensive Telecom Development Program for NER. The estimated cost for schemes is Rs. 3637 Cr.
 - Provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 7,287 Aspirational District villages (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Odisha) and provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 502 uncovered villages of Aspirational Districts in four States (namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan). The estimated cost for projects is Rs. 7152 Cr.
 - Provision of 4G mobile connectivity in 354 uncovered villages of J&K, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Border area & other priority areas. The estimated project cost is Rs. 337 Cr.
 - Provision of 4G Mobile Coverage in 85 uncovered Villages and seamless 4G Mobile coverage of NH223 in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The estimated project cost is Rs 130 Cr.
- (c) As such no demand from public is pending for installation of mobile towers of BSNL for Chitrakoot and Banda districts of the State Uttar Pradesh. In Chitrakoot district, out of 657 villages, 635 number of villages are covered with mobile network and 22 villages are uncovered which are also being covered with mobile connectivity under USOF Schemes. All 734 villages of Banda district are having mobile network. In the State of Rajasthan, out of 46,077 villages, 42,761 villages are having mobile coverage and remaining villages are being covered by Government and TSPs in phased manner.
- (d) As per the Notice Inviting Application (NIA) dated 15-06-2022 for auction of 5G spectrum and the license conditions, the rollout obligations are required to be met over a period of five years, in a phased manner, from the date of allocation of spectrum. Further expansion of mobile networks beyond the mandatory rollout obligations, depends on the techno-commercial consideration of the TSPs. The 5G services are being rolled out in the country including the Chitrakoot and Banda districts of the State Uttar Pradesh in phased manner.
- (e) & (f) The 4G services in the State of Rajasthan has already been started. The district wise details of 4G covered villages is attached in **Annexure-I**.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply of part (e) & (f) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2499 to be answered on 21/12/2022 raised by Hon'ble Members of Parliament regarding "Installation of mobile towers in remote villages"

The districts-wise, details of 4G mobile covered villages of the State of Rajasthan is as below:

District wise 4G mobile coverage Status for the State of Rajasthan as of March'2022			
Sr. No.	District Name*	Total no. of Villages as per RGI Data(30-11-2019)	No. of Villages with 4G Mobile coverage
1	Ajmer	1128	1098
2	Alwar	2067	1998
3	Banswara	1540	1481
4	Baran	1233	1178
5	Barmer	2964	2271
6	Bharatpur	1530	1521
7	Bhilwara	1910	1831
8	Bikaner	946	830
9	Bundi	881	858
10	Chittaurgarh	1771	1555
11	Churu	904	892
12	Dausa	1136	1051
13	Dhaulpur	834	781
14	Dungarpur	1014	961
15	Ganganagar	3024	2987
16	Hanumangarh	1909	1870
17	Jaipur	2264	2145
18	Jaisalmer	855	444
19	Jalor	822	796
20	Jhalawar	1626	1547
21	Jhunjhunun	982	873
22	Jodhpur	1909	1759
23	Karauli	900	801
24	Kota	879	876
25	Nagaur	1641	1588
26	Pali	1047	945
27	Pratapgarh	1009	942
28	Rajsamand	1084	839
29	Sawai Madhopur	825	797
30	Sikar	1191	1147
31	Sirohi	506	427
32	Tonk	1210	1185
33	Udaipur	2536	2069
Total		46077	42343

*Districts are as per Registrar General of India data of Nov'2019
