

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2023**

BSNL 5G SERVICES

***208. DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether spectrum has been allocated to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for rolling out its 5G services by August 2023, if so, the details thereof along with the details of the States where 5G services are proposed by BSNL;
- (b) the details of the States in which BSNL has provided 4G services so far;
- (c) the time by which 4G services are likely to be provided by the BSNL in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and its remote areas;
- (d) the details of the tele-density of Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands as compared to National tele-density;
- (e) whether the Government has identified uncovered villages in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (f) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to cover various such villages; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for expanding telecom facilities in Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during each of the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

- (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *208/8TH FOR 15TH MARCH, 2023 REGARDING BSNL 5G SERVICES.

(a) The spectrum in 600MHz, 3300 MHz and 26 GHz bands have been kept reserved for BSNL for providing 5G services. The 5G services by BSNL would be provided after roll out of 4G services all over India.

(b) The details of States where BSNL is providing 4G services on limited scale is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

(c) In line with Atmanirbhar initiative of the Government, BSNL was directed to deploy Indian core for 4G on the recommendations of Empowered Technology Group (ETG). Accordingly, BSNL floated tender on 22-10-2022 for 1 lakh 4G sites. The bid was opened on 23.11.2022. The evaluation of the bid has been concluded and is under submission for approval of Group of Ministers (GoM). 4G services will be started all over India including Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, within 18-24 months after placing the Purchase Order.

(d) The details of tele-density of Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands as compared to National tele-density, is as below:

Tele-density of India	84.86%
Tele-density of Maharashtra	101.55%
Tele-density of Andaman & Nicobar Islands	137.87%

(e) Details of District-wise uncovered villages in Maharashtra is attached as **Annexure-II**.

(f) & (g) Department of Telecommunications has taken up various projects with support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for provisioning of 4G mobile services in uncovered villages across the country including Maharashtra. Further, Union Cabinet on 27.07.2022, approved an USOF funded project for saturation of 4G mobile services in uncovered villages across the country (including Maharashtra). The project will provide 4G mobile services in 24,680 uncovered villages in remote and difficult areas across country including the uncovered villages of Maharashtra.

The year-wise details of fund disbursed during 2019-20 to 2022-23 (up to December, 2022) under various USOF Projects for providing Telecom facilities in Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, are as below:

(Rupees in Crore)

State/ Union Territory	F.Y. 2019-20	F.Y. 2020-21	F.Y. 2021-22	F.Y. 2022-23 (up to December, 2022)
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	310.28	541.64	97.02	23.92
Maharashtra	290.51	1490.97	442.6	459.13

Annexure-I

Sl. No.	Name of State/Circle where BSNL is providing 4G services on limited scale
1.	Andaman & Nicobar
2.	Assam
3.	Bihar
4.	Kolkata Telecom District
5.	Jharkhand
6.	North East (NE1)
7.	North East (NE2)
8.	Odisha
9.	West Bengal (including Sikkim Circle)
10.	Chhattisgarh
11.	Gujarat
12.	Maharashtra
13.	Madhya Pradesh
14.	Haryana
15.	Himachal Pradesh
16.	Jammu & Kashmir
17.	Punjab
18.	Uttaranchal
19.	UP (East)
20.	UP (West)
21.	Andhra Pradesh
22.	Chennai Telecom District
23.	Kerala
24.	Karnataka
25.	Tamil Nadu
26.	Telangana

District-wise details of the uncovered villages in Maharashtra

Sl. No.	District Name	Total No. of villages	No. of Uncovered villages
1	Ahmadnagar	1586	97
2	Akola	972	17
3	Amravati	1981	173
4	Aurangabad	1361	14
5	Bhandara	885	35
6	Bid	1371	22
7	Buldana	1438	30
8	Chandrapur	1775	79
9	Dhule	720	61
10	Gadchiroli	1646	795
11	Gondiya	934	41
12	Hingoli	708	3
13	Jalgaon	1524	36
14	Jalna	965	3
15	Kolhapur	1250	74
16	Latur	943	4
17	Nagpur	1900	105
18	Nanded	1663	78
19	Nandurbar	960	218
20	Nashik	1928	201
21	Osmanabad	739	11
22	Palghar	904	87
23	Parbhani	843	12
24	Pune	1882	130
25	Raigarh	2008	203
26	Ratnagiri	1538	183
27	Sangli	724	8
28	Satara	1771	160
29	Sindhudurg	746	95
30	Solapur	1159	11
31	Thane	816	53
32	Wardha	1382	25
33	Washim	782	13
34	Yavatmal	2127	44
	Total	43931	3121
