

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3320  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**MINIMAL DATA SPEED**

**3320. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the villages in the country are facing very slow or minimal data speed of internet causing non productivity in all fields;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the non availability of internet and network facilities are not addressed by the concerned agencies to solve the problem in the villages of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that more amount are spent to provide internet services at villages but the problems still exist presently and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken to improve digital services at villages?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) The mobile connectivity in India has expanded significantly in last 9 years. In 2014, there were 6,49,834 BTSs in the country which have grown to 27,45,468 as on 07.08.2023. More than 3.16 lakh 5G towers are providing service in 717 districts. Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) provide telecommunication connectivity in the country in a phased manner. To provide 4G Mobile connectivity in uncovered villages of remote & rural areas, Government is implementing various projects through Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). Under these Projects 36,801 4G mobile towers (including upgradation of 2G/3G Towers) with total expenditure of Rs 35,381 Cr. have been approved to provide 4G mobile connectivity to more than 44,000 villages.

As per TRAI telecom performance indicator report total internet rural subscriber in India are 349.53 million.

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