

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3819
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2019**

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

**3819. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the existing telephone exchange in urban and rural areas of the country as on date State/UT-wise;
- (b) the financial allocation made for the development of telephone exchange during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the State-wise and the location-wise details of the telephone exchanges which are not functioning as on date;
- (d) whether lack of telephone exchange in rural and underdeveloped areas of the country has affected smooth communication network and if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;
- (e) whether most of the telephone exchanges have not been modernized and upgraded and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure smooth functioning of telephone exchanges and upgradation of the existing exchanges with the latest technique?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

- (a) As per the information received from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the details of telephone exchanges in urban and rural areas of the country are placed at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) There has been no financial allocation made by the Department in the last three years for the development of telephone exchanges, while Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) make financial allocation for the development of telephone exchanges based on their techno-commercial considerations.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported non-functioning of 7 exchanges in two License Service Areas (LSAs) namely Karnataka (Masaguppi) and West Bengal (Baripara, Patikabari, Gosaba, Karanjali, Rasakundu and Barabazar).

(d) No, Sir. With the mobile services covering almost 95% population of the country including people residing in rural and underdeveloped areas, there has not been any effect on communication network due to lack of exchanges.

(e) The TSPs keep on upgrading and modernizing their telephone exchanges in line with the technological developments based on their business considerations.

(f) The following steps are being taken by BSNL to upgrade the existing exchanges:

- (i) BSNL has planned to replace CDOT TDM Telephone Exchanges by Internet Protocol (IP) based exchanges and 98% project has completed.
- (ii) BSNL has also planned to replace New Technology TDM switches by IP based Next Generation Network (NGN) exchanges. Total 9.37 million lines are to be replaced. The work for replacement/ upgradation of 5.47 million lines has already been completed and the replacement/ upgradation of 2.3 million lines are in process.

Details of the existing Telephone Exchanges in urban and rural areas of the country as on September, 2019

S.No	Name of License Service Area	Rural	Urban	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh (Excluding Telangana)	1,392	294	1,686
	Telangana	667	299	966
2	Assam	363	182	545
3	Bihar (Excluding Jharkhand)	907	215	1,122
	Jharkhand	247	180	427
4	Delhi	0	382	382
5	Gujarat	1,649	553	2,202
6	Haryana	699	239	938
7	Himachal Pradesh	563	82	645
8	Jammu & Kashmir	183	111	294
9	Karnataka	2,118	614	2,732
10	Kerala	1,109	274	1,383
11	Kolkata	0	466	466
12	Madhya Pradesh (Excluding Chhattisgarh)	1,576	698	2,274
	Chhattisgarh	313	214	527
13	Maharashtra (Excluding Mumbai & Goa)	3,079	660	3,739
	Goa	79	64	143
14	Mumbai	0	301	301
15	Arunachal Pradesh	66	26	92
	Manipur	25	18	43
	Meghalaya	29	22	51
	Mizoram	29	26	55
	Nagaland	41	20	61
	Tripura	51	31	82
16	Orissa	802	278	1,080
17	Punjab	1,115	293	1,408
18	Rajasthan	1,302	409	1,711
19	Tamil Nadu (Excluding Chennai)	1,183	838	2,021
	Chennai	82	271	353
20	Uttar Pradesh East	860	532	1,392
21	Uttar Pradesh West (Excluding Uttarakhand)	499	452	951
	Uttarakhand	259	125	384
22	West Bengal (Excluding Andaman & Nicobar and Sikkim)	894	222	1,116
	Andaman & Nicobar	44	8	52
	Sikkim	18	14	32
Total		22,243	9,413	31,656
