

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2835
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH MARCH, 2020**

MOBILE TOWERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2835. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of mobile towers including its frequency ranges, set up during each of the last three years in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise including for Chittoor district;
- (b) the number and location of residential areas within five kilometre radius of these installed mobile towers; and
- (c) whether the Government is aware of any study or investigation concluding the presence of Cancer Clusters within the same radius of these installed mobile towers and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) District-wise number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) added during the last three years including Chittoor district in Andhra Pradesh is given at **Annexure**. Generally, for providing the network coverage, BTSs are being installed in the vicinity of the residential as well as other areas where telecom connectivity are required.

The present emission norms as laid down for BTSs installed at various mobile towers in India are as follows:

Frequency Range	E-Field Strength (Volt/Meter)	H-Field Strength (Amp/Meter)	Power Density (Watt/Sq.Meter)
400MHz to 2000 MHz	$0.434 f^{1/2}$	$0.0011 f^{1/2}$	$f / 2000$
2 GHz to 300 GHz	19.29	0.05	1

(f is frequency in MHz)

(c) No such study is in the knowledge of Department of Telecommunications (DoT). However, with regard to impact of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) emissions from mobile towers on health, World Health Organization (WHO) has referred to approximately 25,000 articles published around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded - "*current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields*".

In India, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), setup in 2010 to examine the effect of Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) Radiation from BTSs and mobile phones, after examining various national and international studies on the environmental and health related concerns due to EMF, had, inter-alia, indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio

frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause and effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health.

Also, a committee, constituted by Hon'ble High Court Allahabad including Members from IITs of Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorkee, Bombay and from other scientific institutions of the country including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Delhi, in their report submitted in 2014, has, inter-alia, noted – “ ... *On the basis of scientific evidences, studies and reports available, it has been found that there is no conclusive evidence about the stated dangers of EMF radiation from mobile BTS tower...*”. The Committee has noted that “*there are no conclusive evidence to establish any causal link between the effect of EMF radiation from BTS with biological effects described in cell models, animals or humans, and any possible resulting health effects.*”

The main conclusion from the WHO review is that EMF exposure below the limits recommended in the International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection(ICNIRP) international guidelines donot appear to have any known consequences on health.

DoT has been monitoring global developments and has already taken necessary steps and adopted stricter norms for safety from EMF emission from mobile towers. In India, norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) have been fixed ten times more stringent than the safe limits prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO. Government of India has also put in place a well-structured process and adequate mechanism to ensure that TSPs strictly adhere to these prescribed norms.

Annexure referred to in reply of paras (a) &(b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2835 to be answered on 11th March, 2020 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri N. Reddeppa regarding "Mobile Towers In Andhra Pradesh"

District –wise number of BTSs added during last three years in Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Nameof District	BTS Added in 2017	BTS Added in 2018	BTS Added in 2019
1	Anantapuram	910	1107	490
2	Chittoor	855	861	622
3	East Godavari	2870	964	552
4	Guntur	701	966	662
5	Kadapa	-1512	356	382
6	Krishna	627	720	684
7	Kurnool	825	782	412
8	Nellore	716	518	486
9	Prakasam	773	805	580
10	Srikakulam	443	397	464
11	Visakhapatnam	738	584	514
12	Vizianagaram	355	430	373
13	West Godavari	775	914	577
