

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 504  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020**

**MOBILE NETWORK COVERAGE**

**504. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage share in mobile network coverage of BSNL and private telecom service providers respectively in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether gaps/dark spots in network coverage exist in rural areas and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the proposed timeline decided by the Government by which all rural areas will achieve 100 per cent network coverage and access;
- (d) whether 4G is available in all regions in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the proposed timeline decided by the Government for achieving uniform 4G coverage across the country; and
- (f) the network speed in urban and rural areas separately, State/UT-wise along with the reasons for non-uniformity, if any, in network speed throughout the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The percentage share of mobile subscribers of BSNL and private telecom service providers in their respective Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) consisting of State/UTs in the country is detailed at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) & (c) Yes Sir, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has estimated around 27,721 inhabited villages in the country as per recent survey carried out by DoT LSA units & Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), which do not have mobile coverage, as detailed in **Annexure-II** & the steps taken by Government are given below:
  - The Government has planned to cover all uncovered villages in a phased manner, utilizing the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
  - Government prioritized to reach remote areas of the country such as North-Eastern States, Islands, Himalayan States, Western Border States and more importantly the Left Wing Extremism affected areas in the first phase.

- Under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-I project, Government had approved for installation of towers in 2355 locations in 10 states. As on date, 2343 towers are radiating for providing coverage to about 3500 villages in 10 states.
- Under LWE Phase-II project, mobile connectivity, by using 2G + 4G technology, is to be provided in inhabited and uncovered villages at 2217 tower locations.
- A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan is under implementation for North Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage in uncovered villages, along with National Highways and to strengthen transmission network.
- Scheme for providing mobile connectivity in 354 villages of uncovered border areas, Ladakh and Kargil Region and other priority areas is under implementation.
- A scheme for provisioning of 4G based Mobile service in 502 uncovered villages of Aspirational districts of four states Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan has been approved on 20.12.2019.

(d) & (e) LSA-wise number of 4G-LTE Base Transceivers Stations (BTSs) in the country as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2014 & 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 are detailed at **Annexure-III**.

Government has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalisation of spectrum, permitting passive & active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules 2016, making available government land/buildings for installations of towers etc. Telecom Service Providers also install mobile towers and BTSs on continuous basis to improve coverage and/or capacity of their networks based on their techno-commercial requirements. As a result, number of 4G BTSs have been increased from 3862 as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2014 to 14,06,171 on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 across the country.

(f) The download/upload speed of mobile internet is dependent on number of factors such as technology (2G/3G/4G-LTE), closeness to the cell serving the customer, the number of users being served by the cell, the traffic handled by the cell, the user equipment/mobile handset used by the customer etc. As such, the mobile users may experience different speeds at different locations and time of usage and there is no mechanism to assess the speed experienced by all the users in a particular village or town. However, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been obtaining data about download and upload speed of different service providers for different wireless technologies through crowd sourcing using the TRAI MySpeed App and the reports are available to the public on TRAI - “MySpeed” Portal. As per the data collected through Crowd Sourcing, the average download, over a period of last six months for 4G services is at **Annexure-IV**.

Annexure referred to in reply of para (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 504 to be answered on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, regarding "Mobile Network Coverage"

**The percentage share of mobile subscribers of BSNL and private telecom service providers in their respective Licensed Service Areas**

Sr. No.	Service area	Number of Wireless(Mobile) Subscribers of		Percentage share of BSNL to Total Subscribers	Percentage share of private TSPs to Total Subscribers
		BSNL	Private TSPs		
1	Andhra Pradesh	99,74,217	7,81,77,700	11.31%	88.69%
2	Assam	27,05,457	2,17,28,436	11.07%	88.93%
3	Bihar	50,35,542	8,08,25,080	5.86%	94.14%
4	Gujarat	60,68,524	6,30,96,549	8.77%	91.23%
5	Haryana	50,07,976	2,36,79,628	17.46%	82.54%
6	Himachal Pradesh	29,29,237	79,65,733	26.89%	73.11%
7	Jammu & Kashmir	12,63,290	1,00,29,109	11.19%	88.81%
8	Karnataka	73,19,075	6,18,98,033	10.57%	89.43%
9	Kerala	1,09,22,653	3,41,73,451	24.22%	75.78%
10	Madhya Pradesh	63,25,755	7,04,06,189	8.24%	91.76%
11	Maharashtra	71,69,907	8,75,54,806	7.57%	92.43%
12	North East	14,58,756	1,09,75,959	11.73%	88.27%
13	Odisha	58,32,597	2,76,03,972	17.44%	82.56%
14	Punjab	56,24,285	3,49,77,706	13.85%	86.15%
15	Rajasthan	61,00,083	6,02,40,587	9.20%	90.80%
16	Tamil Nadu	1,21,81,968	7,09,26,866	14.66%	85.34%
17	Uttar Pradesh (East)	1,16,15,374	8,92,45,997	11.52%	88.48%
18	Uttar Pradesh (West)	58,82,081	5,97,41,597	8.96%	91.04%
19	West Bengal	20,30,748	5,50,17,521	3.56%	96.44%
20	Kolkata	17,52,817	2,47,16,483	6.62%	93.38%
21	Delhi	0	5,18,00,568	0.00	95.94%
22	Mumbai	0	3,78,87,208	0.00	96.94%

Annexure referred to in reply of para (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 504 to be answered on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, regarding "Mobile Network Coverage"

State/UT-wise number of inhabited villages without mobile network coverage

Sl. No.	State Name	Number of inhabited villages as per census 2011	Number of uncovered inhabited villages as per survey carried out in 2019
1	Andaman & Nicobar	396	157
2	Andhra Pradesh	16158	2095
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	1804
4	Assam	25372	1210
5	Bihar	39073	266
6	Chandigarh	5	0
7	Chhattisgarh	19567	2250
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65	0
9	Daman & Diu	19	0
10	Delhi	103	0
11	Goa	320	23
12	Gujarat	17843	691
13	Haryana	6642	1
14	Himachal Pradesh	17882	166
15	Jammu & Kashmir	6337	200
16	Jharkhand	29492	1253
17	Karnataka	27397	563
18	Kerala	1017	0
19	Lakshadweep	6	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	51929	2970
21	Maharashtra	40959	2989
22	Manipur	2515	788
23	Meghalaya	6459	1598
24	Mizoram	704	270
25	Nagaland	1400	269
26	Odisha	47677	6549
27	Punjab	12168	0
28	Puducherry	90	0
29	Rajasthan	43264	770
30	Sikkim	425	11
31	Tamil Nadu	15049	28
32	Telangana	10128	110
33	Tripura	863	8
34	Uttarakhand	15745	419
35	Uttar Pradesh	97813	205
36	West Bengal	37478	57
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,97,618</b>	<b>27,721</b>

Annexure referred to in reply of para (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 504 to be answered on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, regarding "Mobile Network Coverage"

**LSA-wise number of 4G-LTE Base Transceivers Stations (BTSs)**

Sr.	License Service Area	Number of 4G-LTE as on 31.03.2014	Number of 4G-LTE as on 29.01.2020
1	Andhra Pradesh	17	103365
2	Assam	-	28646
3	Bihar	-	88933
4	Delhi	332	64926
5	Gujarat	5	89072
6	Himachal Pradesh	-	14669
7	Haryana	6	31868
8	Jammu & Kashmir	1	23025
9	Karnataka	1850	94760
10	Kolkata	881	31369
11	Kerala	-	53059
12	Mumbai	13	39960
13	Maharashtra	499	112656
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	99535
15	North-East	-	17841
16	Odisha	-	39930
17	Punjab	256	51029
18	Rajasthan	-	78088
19	Tamil Nadu	1	104111
20	Uttar Pradesh (East)	-	99455
21	Uttar Pradesh(West)	1	76163
22	West Bengal	-	63711
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>3862</b>	<b>1406171</b>

Annexure referred to in reply of para (f) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 504 to be answered on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, regarding "Mobile Network Coverage"

**Download Speed of 4G (In Mbps)**

Sr.	Circles	AIRTEL (Mbps)	IDEA (Mbps)	RJIO (Mbps)	VODAFONE (Mbps)
1	Andhra Pradesh	13.5	3.4	23.1	
2	Assam	13	19.1	5.5	7.3
3	Bihar	7.1	6.6	34.4	
4	Chennai	9.8	10	17.3	11.6
5	Delhi	11		13.8	7.2
6	Gujarat	6.6	9.4	22.8	8
7	Haryana	13.1	5.9	20.2	5.8
8	Himachal Pradesh		4.5	16.6	
9	Jammu & Kashmir	12.7	7.1	9.3	
10	Karnataka	8.3	4.9	18.5	4.4
11	Kerala	11.3	5.5	13.7	7.1
12	Kolkata	9.8		21.3	8.4
13	Madhya Pradesh	11.6	7.4	23.9	
14	Maharashtra	11.2	5.8	19.8	6.5
15	Mumbai	9.6	5.2	12.7	7.4
16	North East	8.1	3	5.4	5.4
17	Orissa	11.6	7	22.7	13.7
18	Punjab	11.4	7	23.1	5.1
19	Rajasthan	9.3	5.4	25.7	5.6
20	Tamil Nadu	9.3	6	12.7	9.3
21	UP East	6.3	3.8	19.5	4
22	UP West	5.3	5.7	21.6	3.7
23	West Bengal	6.6	8	19.3	7.1

Disclaimer - The results represent the average of the data speed samples collected from various consumers of the TSPs on a crowd sourcing basis during speed test initiated by them over the last 6 months and background tests initiated by MySpeed App over last month.

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