

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1481
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS

1481. DR. HEENA GAVIT:
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is providing any compensation to telecom service providers for creation and augmentation of telecom infrastructure in rural and remote areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details regarding budget provision made for this purpose during the last three years;
- (d) whether any such funds have been allocated for development of telecom infrastructure in rural and remote areas of Maharashtra; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) Yes, The Government has created a USO Fund which is being used for providing viability gap funding for creation and augmentation of telecom infrastructure in rural and remote areas.
- (c) The details of budget provision (amount disbursed) for the said purpose during last three years is as under:

Financial Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Rs. in Crore	930.57	549.43	1008.87

- (d) & (e) Yes, Rs. 1541.01 crore has been disbursed (since inception) from USOF for development of telecom infrastructure in rural and remote areas of Maharashtra. The detail is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

The details of disbursement of funds (since inception) from USOF for development of telecom infrastructure in rural and remote areas of Maharashtra		
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Rs. in Crore
1	Provision of Mobile Services in Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas	100.24
2	Replacement of Multi Access Radio Relay Village Public Telephones (MARR VPTs)	119.74
3	Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme	45.74
4	Sanchar Shakti	0.32
5	Village Public Telephone (VPT) in uncovered villages Phase I as per census 1991	21.01
6	VPTs in uncovered villages, Phase II as per census 2001	13.28
7	Rural Community Phones	6.00
8	Rural Household Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs)	1056.17
9	Operation and Maintenance of Village Public Telephones	47.55
10	Setting up of Wi-Fi Hotspot at Rural Exchanges of BSNL	65.76
11	Rural Wireline Broadband	65.20
	Total	1541.01
