

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1530  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**

**INTERNET SUBSCRIBERS**

1530. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of internet subscribers in Rural and Urban districts of the country State/UT-wise including Odisha;
- (b) the internet penetration in Urban and Rural districts of each State;
- (c) whether there exists a parity in tele-density between the Urban and the Rural parts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the actions taken by the Government to bridge the gap;
- (e) whether there exists a gender gap with regard to access to internet and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) As per “The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators” report published by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2021, there were 302.35 million internet subscribers in rural area and 474.11 million subscribers in urban area as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 in the country. There were 33.99 rural internet subscribers per 100 population and 101.74 urban internet subscribers per 100 population. Service Area-wise details of such subscribers as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

(d) To bridge the gap between internet connectivity in Rural and Urban areas of the country the Government has undertaken BharatNet project with funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for providing broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats in the country. Further, to provide broadband/ internet services at Public places & Government Institutions such as school, hospital, post offices, Aanganwadi, customer service centres, police station, etc. Wi-Fi hotspots or any other broadband technology, including Fibre To The Home (FTTH) connections have been provided in rural areas.

(e) Internet connection at home is generally used by all members of the family including women and children. Gender based distribution of internet subscribers is not separately maintained by the Department.

Internet Subscriber Base as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 (in Millions)

Sl. No.	Telecom Service Area	Rural	Urban	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	26.69	34.43	61.12
2	Assam	8.90	6.19	15.09
3	Bihar	32.83	18.86	51.68
4	Delhi	0.76	41.08	41.84
5	Gujarat	14.67	32.74	47.41
6	Haryana	7.08	10.79	17.86
7	Himachal Pradesh	4.09	2.31	6.40
8	Jammu & Kashmir	3.45	4.36	7.81
9	Karnataka	17.17	30.93	48.10
10	Kerala	11.50	16.96	28.47
11	Kolkata	1.44	16.78	18.22
12	Madhya Pradesh	20.84	30.48	51.32
13	Maharashtra	26.86	39.86	66.72
14	Mumbai	1.95	28.51	30.46
15	North East	4.31	4.16	8.47
16	Orissa	13.10	7.25	20.34
17	Punjab	8.66	19.31	27.96
18	Rajasthan	20.49	22.86	43.36
19	Tamil Nadu	14.63	38.43	53.07
20	UP (East)	30.52	26.36	56.88
21	UP (West)	14.90	24.14	39.04
22	West Bengal	17.52	17.33	34.84
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302.35</b>	<b>474.11</b>	<b>776.46</b>

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