

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1440
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th JULY, 2021**

TELECOM TOWERS IN THE VILLAGES

†1440. SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages in the rural areas of the country where telecommunication towers have been set up during each of the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise and telecom company-wise; and
- (b) the number of such towers targeted to be set up in the rural areas in the next financial year, State/UTwise?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

- (a) Sir, the total number of villages in the rural areas of the country where telecommunication towers were installed during each of the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise and telecom company-wise is attached as **Annexure-1**.
- (b) Telecom companies explore opportunities to expand their network coverage by installing new towers. The number of mobile towers in India has increased from 4,15,724 (as on 31-12-2015) to 6,63,411 (in 22-07-2021). Expansion of mobile towers is dynamic in nature and undertaken by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Infrastructure Providers Category-1 (IP-1) based on their CAPEX capacity, techno-commercial assessment and other parameters. Telecom Companies for most of the States/ UTs have expressed their inability to provide their future plan. However, for some of the States/ UTs they have provided number of towers proposed to be installed in rural areas in the next financial year which is attached as **Annexure-2**.

TELECOM COMPANY-WISE TOTAL NUMBER OF VILLAGES WHERE TELECOM TOWERS WERE INSTALLED DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS AND THE CURRENT YEAR

S No	State/UT	Name of TSP	No. of Census inhabited villages where telecom towers were installed		
			During 2019-20	During 2020-21	During 2021-22 till date
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	BAL	NIL	1	NIL
		BSNL	8	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	NIL	NIL	1
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2	Andhra Pradesh	BSNL	12	12	4
		BAL	309	463	NIL
		RJIL	594	33	335
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
3	Arunachal Pradesh	BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	52	NIL	16
		BHL	275	126	12
		VIL	12	4	NIL
4	Assam	BAL	570	468	46
		BSNL	2	NIL	0
		RJIL	956	821	416
		VIL	1	NIL	0
5	Bihar	BAL	1091	1284	46
		BSNL	NIL	1	NIL
		VIL	295	4	NIL
		RJIL	2208	1388	156
6	Chandigarh	BAL	1	3	1
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		VIL	NIL	1	NIL
7	Chattisgarh	BSNL	13	2	NIL
		VIL	3	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	777	670	100
		BAL	232	22	NIL
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu	BAL	1	1	1
		VIL	2	4	0
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	0
		RJIL	4	1	22
9	Goa	BAL	5	2	NIL
		VIL	1	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	25	8	3
		BSNL	8	1	NIL
10	Gujarat	BAL	152	279	45
		VIL	144	209	8
		BSNL	64	36	1
		RJIL	1321	1036	1290
11	Haryana	RJIL	351	374	127
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		BAL	52	350	63
		VIL	164	105	2
12	Himachal	BSNL	14	4	NIL

	Pradesh	RJIL	489	102	48
		VIL	10	5	NIL
		BAL	255	416	195
13	Jammu and Kashmir	BAL	103	191	45
		RJIL	448	193	13
		BSNL	NIL	3	NIL
		VIL	36	NIL	NIL
14	Jharkhand	BAL	540	714	21
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		VIL	47	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	933	948	319
15	Karnataka	RJIL	1474	656	209
		BAL	1067	1066	14
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		BSNL	19	6	4
16	Kerala	BSNL	40	24	4
		VIL	4	27	16
		RJIL	39	209	92
		BAL	42	374	23
17	Ladakh	BSNL	10	4	NIL
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		BAL	9	47	NIL
		RJIL	34	21	17
18	Lakshadweep	BAL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		BSNL	1	NIL	NIL
19	Madhya Pradesh	BAL	42	80	NIL
		BSNL	481	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	1758	932	NIL
		VIL	46	4	NIL
20	Maharashtra	BAL	558	349	24
		VIL	14	45	5
		RJIL	2120	1257	361
		BSNL	532	59	NIL
		MTNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
21	Manipur	BSNL	55	14	NIL
		RJIL	68	4	46
		BHL	401	301	9
		VIL	11	3	NIL
22	Meghalaya	BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	230	2	40
		BHL	146	142	4
		VIL	45	NIL	NIL
23	Mizoram	BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	37	NIL	15
		BHL	238	121	7
		VIL	2	NIL	NIL
24	Nagaland	BSNL	30	3	NIL
		RJIL	76	1	29
		BHL	237	130	10
		VIL	14	2	NIL
25	Delhi	BAL	18	7	NIL
		VIL	24	13	NIL
		RJIL	11	7	2
		MTNL	NIL	NIL	NIL

26	Odisha	BAL	687	873	32
		BSNL	51	22	5
		RJIL	1256	591	257
		VIL	41	5	NIL
27	Puducherry	BAL	1	1	0
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	0
		RJIL	17	11	1
		VIL	5	9	0
28	Punjab	BAL	152	345	109
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	187	1	NIL
		VIL	26	120	20
29	Rajasthan	VIL	14	15	NIL
		BSNL	NIL	7	1
		RJIL	1995	611	195
		BHL	901	1041	105
30	Sikkim	BAL	9	1	1
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	0
		RJIL	34	17	6
		VIL	NIL	NIL	0
31	Tamil Nadu	BAL	166	295	39
		VIL	347	563	3
		BSNL	2	NIL	1
		RJIL	1491	834	219
32	Telangana	BSNL	7	3	1
		BAL	190	350	NIL
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	583	40	57
33	Tripura	BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	80	1	47
		BHL	165	129	38
		VIL	6	NIL	NIL
34	Uttar Pradesh	BAL	174	728	73
		BSNL	6	1	27
		RJIL	1797	1078	1121
		VIL	587	63	24
35	Uttarakhand	VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	481	471	69
		BAL	32	95	9
		BSNL	18	1	1
36	West Bengal	BAL	5	16	NIL
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	1874	252	188
		VIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Legends:

BAL	:	Bharti Airtel Limited
BHL	:	Bharti Hexacom Limited
BSNL	:	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
MTNL	:	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
RJIL	:	Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited
VIL	:	Vodafone Idea Limited

TELECOM COMPANY-WISE NUMBER OF TOWERS PROPOSED TO BE INSTALLED IN RURAL AREAS IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR, STATE/ UT-WISE

S No	State/UT	Name of TSPs/Company	No. of Census inhibited villages where telecom towers proposed to be installed during next Financial Year
1	Andhra Pradesh	BSNL	72
2	Himachal Pradesh	BAL	130
3	Karnataka	BAL	200
4	Kerala	RJIL	235
5	Puducherry	RJIL	40
6	Tamil Nadu	BSNL	4
7		RJIL	400
	Assam	BSNL	17
8	Odisha	BSNL	45

In addition to the above, Government has taken up following schemes to provide mobile/broadband/internet services in future by installation of towers in rural and remote areas of the country with support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF):

- i. Provision of 4G mobile services by installation of 2,542 towers in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas under Phase-II.
- ii. Provision of 4G Mobile Services in uncovered villages of Meghalaya and seamless coverage along National Highway by installation of 889 towers.
- iii. Provision of 4G Mobile Services in uncovered villages of Arunachal Pradesh and 2 Districts of Assam by installation of 1,511 towers:
- iv. Provision of Mobile Services by installation of towers in 225 uncovered villages under the scheme to cover 354 uncovered villages of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Border area & other priority areas.
- v. Provision of 4G mobile connectivity by installation of 462 towers in 502 uncovered villages of Aspirational Districts in four States (namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan).
- vi. Provision of 4G Mobile Coverage by installation of 124 towers in uncovered villages and seamless 4G Mobile coverage of National Highway in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Legends:

BAL : Bharti Airtel Limited
 BSNL : Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
 RJIL : Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited
