

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1478
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th JULY, 2021**

TELECOM TOWERS

1478. SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:
DR. HEENA GAVIT:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:
DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether opportunities of digital services and e-governance are increasing in the rural areas where telecom towers have been installed and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of villages where mobile towers have been installed till now State/UT-wise including Maharashtra and the number of towers to be installed in the next financial year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the total number of towers installed in Ahmednagar, Kolhapur, Nandurbar, Jalgaon and Thane districts of Maharashtra during each of the last three years, telecom company-wise; and
- (d) the total number of towers installed across the country during the same period, State/UT-wise and telecom company-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) With Government's constant endeavor, the opportunities of digital services including e-Governance through various projects/ programmes are increasing in rural areas. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India has initiated the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge-based economy by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. A large number of initiatives have been undertaken by Government for promotion of digital technology application across the country. Under e-Kranti, a total of 44 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) are being implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments, States, and State Departments. These MMPs are providing services in the areas such as education, healthcare, agriculture, justice, land records, social benefits, local governments, rural development, women & child development, legislature, local language, transport, financial services, Income Tax (IT), Passport, Posts, etc.

MeitY is also implementing Common Services Centres (CSCs) scheme. CSCs are internet enabled centres operated by local entrepreneur, called Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). Presently, the operational CSCs are transacting the various digital services by using the presently available mode of connectivity, such as, 2G/3G/4G, VSAT and wired broadband etc. As on 30th June, 2021, there are 3,99,675 CSCs functional in the country (including rural & urban areas), out of them, 3,00,955 CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat or Census Village areas.

The installation of telecom towers, especially where 4G services are provided, increase the opportunity for digital services and e-Governance.

Further, the statistics of e-transactions on e-Taal platform (<https://etaal.gov.in/>) gives an indication of increase in digital penetration and usage of e-Government tools in India. More than 7203 crore e-transactions have been recorded in year 2020 in comparison to 761 crore e-transactions in year 2015 for various services integrated with e-Taal portal.

(b) The total number of villages where mobile towers have been installed till date State/UT-wise including Maharashtra is attached as **Annexure-1**.

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 the number of towers proposed to be installed in villages in the next financial year which is attached as **Annexure-2**.

(c) The total number of towers installed in Ahmednagar, Kolhapur, Nandurbar, Jalgaon and Thane districts of Maharashtra during each of the last three years, telecom company-wise is attached as **Annexure-3**.

(d) The total number of mobile towers installed across the country during the same period, State/UT-wise and telecom company-wise is attached as **Annexure-4**.

**TOTAL NUMBER OF VILLAGES WHERE MOBILE TOWERS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED
TILL DATE STATE/UT-WISE**

S.No.	State/UTs	Name of TSP	Number of census inhabited villages where mobile towers have been installed
1	Himachal Pradesh	BAL	2407
		RJIL	2712
		BSNL	1010
		VIL	763
2	Gujarat	BAL	152
		BSNL	64
		RJIL	1321
		VIL	144
3	DNH &DD	BAL	1
		BSNL	0
		RJIL	4
		VIL	2
4	Uttar Pradesh	BAL	15361
		RJIL	20873
		VIL	14358
		BSNL	6388
5	Uttarakhand	BAL	975
		BSNL	670
		RJIL	1416
		VIL	1499
6	Tamilnadu	BSNL	2458
		RJIL	5499
		VIL	4562
		BAL	6032
7	Pondicherry	BSNL	46
		RJIL	28
		VIL	37
		BAL	47
8	Haryana	RJIL	4237
		BSNL	1181
		VIL	2588
		BAL	2573
9	Karnataka	BAL	8021
		BSNL	1064
		RJIL	9262
		VIL	4246
10	Rajasthan	BAL	5852
		VIL	5381
		BSNL	2587
		RJIL	8463
11	Madhya Pradesh	BAL	4334
		BSNL	2770
		RJIL	12028
		VIL	4821
12	Chhattisgarh	BAL	1226
		BSNL	588
		RJIL	4083
		VIL	329
13	Kerala	BSNL	947

		VIL	961
		BAL	887
		RJIL	980
14	Lakshadweep	BSNL	5
		BAL	2
15	Delhi	BAL	101
		RJIL	90
		VIL	94
		MTNL	94
16	Goa	BAL	16
		BSNL	112
		RJIL	195
		VIL	45
17	Maharashtra	BAL	4159
		BSNL	5301
		RJIL	12691
		VIL	5972
		MTNL	15
18	J&K	RJIL	1855
		BSNL	2552
		BAL	1639
		VIL	439
19	Ladakh	RJIL	126
		BSNL	71
		BAL	19
		VIL	0
20	Telangana	BSNL	1753
		VIL	2650
		RJIL	5674
		BAL	3980
21	Andhra Pradesh	BSNL	2618
		RJIL	6379
		VIL	5950
		BAL	5544
22	Assam	BAL	4170
		BSNL	923
		RJIL	4955
		VIL	1274
23	West Bengal	RJIL	5683
		BAL	22
		VIL	5778
		BSNL	1062
24	Punjab	BAL	3657
		BSNL	2212
		RJIL	3926
		VIL	3184
25	Chandigarh	BAL	5
		BSNL	5
		RJIL	5
		VIL	5
26	Odisha	BAL	6011
		BSNL	1856
		RJIL	4382
		VIL	1873
27	Bihar	BAL	9008
		RJIL	12141

		VIL	4743
		BSNL	1501
28	Jharkhand	BAL	3279
		BSNL	1488
		RJIL	9667
		VIL	537
29	A&N Islands	BSNL	122
		BAL	0
		VIL	0
		RJIL	1
30	Sikkim	BAL	13
		BSNL	18
		RJIL	97
		VIL	0
31	Arunachal Pradesh	BHL	141
		BSNL	3
		RJIL	250
		VIL	229
32	Manipur	BHL	476
		BSNL	8
		RJIL	629
		VIL	241
33	Meghalaya	BHL	225
		BSNL	34
		RJIL	894
		VIL	298
34	Mizoram	BHL	265
		BSNL	24
		RJIL	201
		VIL	62
35	Nagaland	BHL	263
		BSNL	5
		RJIL	498
		VIL	211
36	Tripura	BHL	275
		BSNL	64
		RJIL	801
		VIL	252

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

**NUMBER OF TOWERS PROPOSED TO BE INSTALLED IN INHABITED CENSUS VILLAGES
IN THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR**

S.No.	State/UTs	Number of towers to be installed in next financial year (in census inhabited villages)
1	A&N Islands	88
2	Andhra Pradesh	72
3	Himachal Pradesh	130
4	Karnataka	200
5	Kerala	235
6	Maharashtra	18
7	Odisha	45
8	Pondicherry	40
9	Tamilnadu	404

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TOWERS INSTALLED IN AHMEDNAGAR, KOLHAPUR, NANDURBAR, JALGAON AND THANE DISTRICTS OF MAHARASHTRA DURING EACH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, TELECOM COMPANY-WISE

Financial Year	Districts Name	BAL	BSNL	RJIL	VIL
2018-19	Ahmednagar	35	37	306	16
	Kolhapur	26	0	186	20
	Jalgaon	31	43	210	5
	Nandurbar	5	2	106	4
	Thane	130	0	459	31
2019-20	Ahmednagar	41	79	197	52
	Kolhapur	60	22	144	4
	Jalgaon	25	57	175	2
	Nandurbar	1	4	85	1
	Thane	334	55	402	18
2020-21	Ahmednagar	85	3	170	0
	Kolhapur	136	75	123	2
	Jalgaon	78	8	159	4
	Nandurbar	13	18	53	2
	Thane	328	18	346	8
2021-22 (till date)	Ahmednagar	19	0	50	7
	Kolhapur	18	12	29	0
	Jalgaon	7	0	28	1
	Nandurbar	2	2	19	0
	Thane	38	0	135	0

Legends:

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

ANNEXURE-4
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MOBILE TOWERS INSTALLED ACROSS THE COUNTRY DURING EACH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, STATE/UT-WISE AND TELECOM COMPANY-WISE

S.No.	State/UTs	Total Number of towers installed (TSP Wise) in last three years			
		Name of TSP	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1	Himachal Pradesh	BAL	290	255	416
		RJIL	777	489	102
		BSNL	12	17	4
		VIL	72	14	5
2	Gujarat	BAL	153	349	45
		BSNL	492	194	18
		RJIL	3924	4156	1290
		VIL	3220	992	41
3	DNH &DD	BAL	1	3	1
		BSNL	1	0	1
		RJIL	12	16	22
		VIL	2	4	0
4	Uttar Pradesh	BAL	1815	1850	3405
		RJIL	7603	6174	4351
		VIL	264	750	155
		BSNL	506	26	12
5	Uttarakhand	BAL	90	32	95
		BSNL	3	18	1
		RJIL	494	610	848
		VIL	25	25	51
6	Tamilnadu	BSNL	2	2	0
		RJIL	5766	1491	834
		VIL	541	347	563
		BAL	2384	166	295
7	Pondicherry	BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	51	17	11
		VIL	1	5	9
		BAL	3	1	1
8	Haryana	RJIL	2584	831	968
		BSNL	0	0	0
		VIL	399	534	260
		BAL	783	781	1289
9	Karnataka	BAL	255	278	120
		BSNL	38	19	6
		RJIL	5129	2374	2702
		VIL	0	0	0
10	Rajasthan	BAL	350	944	1504
		VIL	18	14	15
		BSNL	55	17	7
		RJIL	5509	1995	1095
11	Madhya Pradesh	BAL	50	42	80
		BSNL	114	481	NIL
		RJIL	4474	1758	932
		VIL	15	46	4
12	Chhattisgarh	BAL	29	29	19
		BSNL	350	61	9
		RJIL	2746	18	736
		VIL	16	28	32
13	Kerala	BSNL	120	59	24
		VIL	121	131	27

		BAL	194	45	374
		RJIL	1169	598	209
14	Lakshadweep	BSNL	11	1	1
		BAL	0	4	0
15	Delhi	BAL	907	914	1059
		RJIL	1101	995	1895
		VIL	503	580	83
		MTNL	0	0	0
16	Goa	BAL	5	2	0
		BSNL	8	1	0
		RJIL	25	8	3
		VIL	1	0	0
17	Maharashtra	BAL	567	352	27
		BSNL	532	59	0
		RJIL	2129	335	358
		VIL	15	48	23
18	J&K	RJIL	1037	462	266
		BSNL	14	13	6
		BAL	370	280	312
		VIL	74	46	0
19	Ladakh	RJIL	36	29	20
		BSNL	14	3	19
		BAL	44	21	21
		VIL	0	0	0
20	Telangana	BSNL	13	7	6
		VIL	Nil	Nil	Nil
		RJIL	2493	930	215
		BAL	475	501	1253
21	Andhra Pradesh	BSNL	11	12	11
		RJIL	2493	954	1509
		VIL	0	0	0
		BAL	475	501	1253
22	Assam	BAL	642	742	812
		BSNL	30	2	0
		RJIL	3376	1203	1021
		VIL	7	1	0
23	West Bengal	RJIL	3315	2761	2205
		BAL	637	715	1128
		VIL	61	10	36
		BSNL	20	2	77
24	Punjab	BAL	743	564	868
		BSNL	15	0	0
		RJIL	998	329	857
		VIL	125	116	278
25	Chandigarh	BAL	44	50	35
		BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	36	18	43
		VIL	7	22	6
26	Odisha	BAL	573	687	873
		BSNL	84	51	22
		RJIL	2278	1256	591
		VIL	18	41	5
27	Bihar	BAL	454	1141	1414
		RJIL	2947	2892	2837
		VIL	337	304	11
		BSNL	238	94	0

28	Jharkhand	BAL	308	792	964
		BSNL	42	0	0
		RJIL	4638	3368	2954
		VIL	130	88	6
29	A&N Islands	BSNL	Nil	8	Nil
		BAL	0	0	0
		VIL	0	0	0
		RJIL	0	0	0
30	Sikkim	BAL	1	9	1
		BSNL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		RJIL	28	34	17
		VIL	0	0	0
31	Arunachal Pradesh	BHL	157	275	126
		BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	46	52	0
		VIL	57	12	4
32	Manipur	BHL	187	401	301
		BSNL	8	55	14
		RJIL	86	68	4
		VIL	31	11	3
33	Meghalaya	BHL	238	146	142
		BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	189	230	2
		VIL	52	45	0
34	Mizoram	BHL	97	238	121
		BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	37	37	0
		VIL	4	2	0
35	Nagaland	BHL	139	237	130
		BSNL	0	30	3
		RJIL	64	76	1
		VIL	23	14	2
36	Tripura	BHL	294	165	129
		BSNL	0	0	0
		RJIL	128	80	1
		VIL	37	6	0
