

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2882  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN REMOTE AREAS**

2882. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to ensure internet connectivity in remote and rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of villages in the rural areas of the country where telecommunication towers have been set up during the last three years, State/UT-wise and telecom company-wise; and
- (d) the details of the plan for the next financial year?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): Internet facility is provided in rural areas by the Government and the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through wireless mobile and fixed wireline connections in phased manner. As per data provided by Telecom Service Providers and field units of Department of Telecommunications, it is estimated that out of 5,97,618 inhabited villages (as per Census 2011) in the country, mobile wireless coverage has been provided in 5,72,551 villages. In addition to this, BharatNet project is envisaged in all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages of the country to provide high speed internet/broadband. As on 01.11.2021, a total of 1,66,088 Gram Panchayats have been made service ready in the country with broadband infrastructure under BharatNet.

(c) Telecom towers are shared by many Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) for installation of their Base Transceiver Stations(BTSs) which radiate the mobile signals. The number of villages in the rural areas of the country where BTSs have been set up by different TSPs during the last three financial years are at **Annexure- A**.

(d) Telecom Towers/BTSs are installed by various Infrastructure Providers/ TSPs based on various factors such as techno-commercial viability, Right of Way (RoW) permissions etc.

**Annexure - A****Annexure-A referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2882 for 15.12.2021**

State/UT-wise number of inhabited villages in the rural areas of the country where BTSs have been set up by different TSPs

S.No.	State/UT	Year	No. of inhabited villages in the rural areas of the country where BTSs have been set up by different TSPs			
			RJIL	BAL	VIL	BSNL
1	Andaman & Nicobar	2018-19	0	0	0	0
		2019-20	0	0	0	51
		2020-21	0	0	0	12
2	Andhra Pradesh	2018-19	6123	1475	117	490
		2019-20	1782	1156	35	194
		2020-21	99	1269	23	116
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2018-19	57	195	20	0
		2019-20	43	371	2	0
		2020-21	0	199	1	0
4.	Assam	2018-19	1274	2129	482	30
		2019-20	956	2505	1	2
		2020-21	1042	3014	11	0
5.	Bihar	2018-19	2424	5671	277	312
		2019-20	2208	4502	325	18
		2020-21	1388	3975	4	1
6.	Chandigarh	2018-19	6	2	4	0
		2019-20	3	4	5	0
		2020-21	3	8	2	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	2018-19	5453	630	494	373
		2019-20	2103	280	385	47
		2020-21	1240	560	33	25
8.	D&NH and D&D	2018-19	13	16	55	0
		2019-20	56	6	12	0
		2020-21	20	13	8	0
9.	Goa	2018-19	330	490	6	0
		2019-20	86	517	4	39
		2020-21	65	557	3	8
10.	Gujarat	2018-19	11166	1511	2284	79
		2019-20	3924	728	4057	64
		2020-21	2095	1179	1602	40
11.	Haryana	2018-19	2608	1273	969	595
		2019-20	454	293	610	56
		2020-21	807	1413	166	5
12.	Himachal Pradesh	2018-19	2864	446	42	217
		2019-20	1311	673	10	20
		2020-21	354	946	6	6

13.	Jammu & Kashmir	2018-19	4332	637	21	35
		2019-20	1331	315	34	18
		2020-21	403	548	1	12
14.	Jharkhand	2018-19	1361	1432	58	7
		2019-20	933	1278	47	1
		2020-21	986	1695	0	1
15.	Karnataka	2018-19	2802	321	0	567
		2019-20	1337	867	1149	298
		2020-21	391	924	126	94
16.	Kerala	2018-19	614	699	3	461
		2019-20	433	642	4	236
		2020-21	176	305	0	66
17.	Ladakh	2018-19	162	58	0	25
		2019-20	101	36	0	19
		2020-21	37	32	0	8
18.	Lakshadweep	2018-19	0	0	0	2
		2019-20	0	4	0	1
		2020-21	0	0	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	2018-19	13422	3283	1835	299
		2019-20	5274	3288	1403	793
		2020-21	1278	5693	196	0
20.	Maharashtra	2018-19	15625	8846	1524	1796
		2019-20	6511	9806	1750	1633
		2020-21	2880	12564	320	703
21.	Manipur	2018-19	109	227	6	0
		2019-20	57	603	0	5
		2020-21	49	495	0	0
22.	Meghalaya	2018-19	208	288	9	5
		2019-20	166	173	14	0
		2020-21	66	242	0	0
23.	Mizoram	2018-19	53	118	1	0
		2019-20	32	363	0	0
		2020-21	15	203	0	0
24.	Nagaland	2018-19	103	151	3	6
		2019-20	69	344	0	0
		2020-21	30	193	0	0
25.	NCT of Delhi	2018-19	32	8	5	0
		2019-20	11	18	8	0
		2020-21	7	7	8	0
26.	Odisha	2018-19	1194	752	391	71
		2019-20	3766	1221	288	27
		2020-21	1021	1969	33	22
27.	Puducherry	2018-19	50	1	9	0
		2019-20	19	0	8	0
		2020-21	13	7	7	0
28.	Punjab	2018-19	1985	2135	1413	15
		2019-20	270	677	767	0
		2020-21	18	1309	759	0

29.	Rajasthan	2018-19	4648	1244	18	1178
		2019-20	1995	979	14	2
		2020-21	611	1282	15	38
30.	Sikkim	2018-19	53	86	16	1
		2019-20	40	115	54	0
		2020-21	20	35	11	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	2018-19	5114	398	1985	5
		2019-20	2411	154	821	32
		2020-21	1126	461	666	226
32.	Telangana	2018-19	7479	1046	129	377
		2019-20	2790	587	86	154
		2020-21	645	708	68	50
33.	Tripura	2018-19	109	312	4	0
		2019-20	49	189	4	0
		2020-21	16	302	0	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2018-19	9039	6553	6805	1581
		2019-20	1991	8532	5898	190
		2020-21	1593	9307	1527	76
35.	Uttarakhand	2018-19	739	693	626	186
		2019-20	660	515	319	101
		2020-21	537	848	308	10
36.	West Bengal	2018-19	2790	4864	2621	836
		2019-20	2182	3070	3152	18
		2020-21	250	2817	503	245

Legends:

RJIL : Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

BAL : Bharti Airtel Limited

VIL : Vodafone Idea Limited

BSNL : Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

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