GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 227
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2022

TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY

227.   SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether all the villages in the country including tribal areas of various States have been linked with the telecommunication facilities, particularly mobile telephone facilities and if so, the details of the number of such villages and tribal areas thereof, State/UT-wise;

(b)   the target fixed and achieved by the Government and the details of action plan, if any, for extension of the telecommunication services across all the villages in the country during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(c)   whether the Government has noticed that a tribal student from Panniyode tribal hamlet at Kannavam in Kannur District of Kerala, fell down from a tree and was seriously injured when he climbed for getting mobile signal to check his plus one seat allotment status; and

(d)   if so, the details thereof including the number of students forced to climb trees for attending online classes due to network?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

(a)   As per data provided by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and field units of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), 96% inhabited villages in the country have telecom connectivity, as against 80% inhabited villages in 93 districts with more than 50% tribal population. The State/UT-wise details are attached as **Annexure-I.**

(b)   Government of India is implementing various schemes under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to enhance telecom connectivity in the rural and predominately tribal area of the country including North Eastern Region (NER) and areas affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Border areas, Aspirational Districts and Islands. Further, remaining villages of the country including tribal areas are covered by Government and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in a phased manner. The State/UT-wise details of telecommunication connectivity by Government is attached as **Annexure-II.**

(c) & (d)   As per the information received from State Government of Kerala, an incident has been reported on 26.08.2021 where a tribal student from Panniyode tribal colony had fallen down from the tree while attempting to connect the internet. However, no other such incidents has been reported to the Government.

Annexure referred to in reply of para (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 227 to be answered on 02nd February 2022 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Telecommunication Facility"

Sr. No.	State/UT Name	Number of Tribal District	Total No of inhabited villages as per Census 2011 in Tribal Districts	No of inhabited villages with mobile connectivity as on December 2020	No of inhabited villages without mobile connectivity as on December 2020
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	90	37	53
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	3072	1946	1126
3	Arunachal Pradesh	13	4361	2305	2056
4	Assam	2	3388	2861	527
5	Chhattisgarh	5	5256	4446	810
6	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	1	65	65	0
7	Gujarat	6	3329	3062	267
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	521	402	119
9	Jharkhand	5	4139	3664	475
10	Karnataka	1	679	678	1
11	Ladakh	2	236	172	64
12	Lakshadweep	1	6	5	1
13	Madhya Pradesh	6	5598	5128	470
14	Maharashtra	1	930	744	186
15	Manipur	5	2082	1623	459
16	Meghalaya	7	6459	4785	1674
17	Mizoram	8	704	498	206
18	Nagaland	11	1400	1256	144
19	Odisha	8	15652	11145	4507
20	Rajasthan	3	3427	3374	53
21	Sikkim	1	52	44	8
22	Tripura	1	148	131	17
23	Uttar Pradesh	2	3181	3162	19
	Total	**93**	**64775**	**51533**	**13242**

Annexure referred to in reply of para (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 227 to be answered on 02nd February 2022 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Telecommunication Facility"

(a)   Details of State/UT-wise Service Ready Gram Panchayats (GPs) of BharatNet project is given below:

Sr. No.	State/UT	Service Ready GPs (including Block Headquarters) as on		
		Mar-19	**Mar-20**	**Mar-21**
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	8	24
2	Andhra Pradesh	1407	1648	1709
3	Arunachal	108	335	666
4	Assam	1621	1622	1627
5	Bihar	5876	8461	8825
6	Chandigarh	13	13	13
7	Chhattisgarh	4074	4925	7598
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	38	39	39
9	Goa	0	0	0
10	Gujarat	5449	11771	13517
11	Haryana	6187	6189	6203
12	Himachal Pradesh	227	281	371
13	Jammu & Kashmir	655	875	1010
14	Jharkhand	2388	2570	3742
15	Karnataka	6117	6246	6247
16	Kerala	1129	1129	1129
17	Ladakh	50	167	184
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	12706	13109	15351
20	Maharashtra	15173	15843	19155
21	Manipur	322	953	1429
22	Meghalaya	187	256	580
23	Mizoram	32	235	422
24	Nagaland	98	129	222
25	Odisha	3616	4186	6071
26	Puducherry	101	101	101
27	Punjab	7945	12676	12803
28	Rajasthan	8564	8817	8979
29	Sikkim	17	28	28
30	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
31	Telangana	2047	2047	3748
32	Tripura	529	690	737
33	Uttar Pradesh	28207	29157	31531
34	Uttarakhand	1508	1530	1565
35	West Bengal	2128	2373	2498
	Total	**118519**	**138409**	**158124**

(b)   The State/UT wise details of villages for providing mobile connectivity in USOF Scheme for 354 uncovered villages is given below:

Sr. No.	State/UT	No. of Village covered as on		
		Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21
1	Bihar	0	0	8
2	Gujarat	0	0	16
3	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	4
4	Jammu	0	0	12
5	Karnataka	0	0	3
6	Kashmir	0	0	11
7	Rajasthan	0	0	24
8	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	2
9	Uttarakhand	0	0	14
10	West Bengal	0	0	1
	Total	**0**	**0**	**95**

Note: The Agreement for providing mobile connectivity in 354 uncovered villages was signed on April 2020.

(c)   The State/UT wise details of villages for Mobile Services in USOF Scheme for uncovered villages in Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh (National Highways only) of NER and seamless coverage along National Highway is given below:

Sr. No.	State	No. of Village covered as on		
		Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21
1	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
2	Assam	82	443	530
3	Manipur	12	276	382
4	Mizoram	9	172	213
5	Nagaland	2	96	112
6	Tripura	0	0	0
7	Sikkim	0	7	8
	Total	105	994	1245

Note: Arunachal Pradesh includes only National Highway Sites.

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