

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 546
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2022**

ONLINE STUDIES

†546. SHRI SADASHIV KISAN LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the online study of the Government and private schools students was disrupted due to the non-availability of telecom mobile network in tribal dominated Akole tehsil in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra during the worldwide outbreak of Covid-19 and Omicron epidemic and the situation is same even today and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government have taken or proposed to take any steps to set up mobile tower to ensure telecom network in tribal dominated Akole tehsil of Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) 348 number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) (2G - 74, 3G - 39 & 4G - 235) installed by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), are providing mobile network coverage in Akole tehsil in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

Out of 190 inhabited villages in Akole tehsil (as per census 2011), 157 villages have mobile network coverage. Out of these 157 villages, 140 villages have 3G/4G mobile network coverage. Mobile coverage in uncovered villages in the country is being provided by the Government in a phased manner.

Moreover, TSPs install mobile towers and BTSs to improve coverage and capacity of their networks based on their techno-commercial requirements from time to time. For further enhancement of the mobile network coverage, TSPs have planned 10 BTSs in Akole tehsil in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.
