

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4405  
ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**TELECOM CONNECTIVITY IN TRIBAL AREAS**

**†4405. DR. SHIVAJI BANDAPPA KALGE:  
SMT. DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:  
SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:  
SHRI GYANESHWAR PATIL:  
SHRI BHUMARE SANDIPANRAO ASARAM:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the various measures taken by the Government to improve telecom connectivity in the tribal areas of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh Union Territories of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu under the Bharat Net Project initiative;
- (b) whether the Government has initiated any work in the extremely rural areas of Maharashtra, Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and Madhya Pradesh under the said Project or under any other similar initiative;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the targeted approach for enhancing internet and technological literacy and the affordability of an individual on personal electronic devices and internet packages along with the access to internet?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) BharatNet is being implemented in the phased wise manner to provide connectivity to Gram Panchayats (GPs) across the country. As on 30.06.2025, 2,14,325 GPs have been made service ready including 24,575 GPs in Maharashtra, 38 GPs in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and 17,850 GPs in Madhya Pradesh. Amended BharatNet program (ABP) is proposed to be implemented to provide connectivity to remaining GPs and non GP villages on the demand basis.
- (b) & (c) Government has taken up 'BharatNet' and various mobile projects with funding from Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) for expansion of telecom network coverage in uncovered remote and rural areas, including tribal areas of the country. Till June 2025, under DBN-funded 4G saturation schemes, 2,574 Particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) villages and a total of 21,748 mobile towers (including 3,804 in Maharashtra, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, and Madhya Pradesh) have been commissioned across India.
- (d) The Government has undertaken various initiatives to enhance digital accessibility and inclusion. This includes the establishment of Common Service Centres (CSCs) to deliver e-services to citizens in rural areas. Furthermore, incentives and subsidies for Fibre-to-the-Home (FTTH) connections are being provided under the BharatNet Udyami Model to ensure last-mile connectivity. Additionally, a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Government, Prasar Bharati, and the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) to proliferate affordable and accessible digital services across the country.

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