

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 635
ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2025**

**MOBILE CONNECTIVITY IN REMOTE BORDER AREAS IN THE NORTHEAST
REGION**

635. DR. INDRA HANG SUBBA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and the number of border villages/areas in Northeast region that do not have mobile network connectivity;
- (b) the details of the total budget allocated during the last five years for strengthening mobile network in remote border villages/areas of Northeast region;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to strengthen mobile networks along Indo-Nepal border in Sikkim;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) Out of 5,200 villages/habitations in the border areas of Northeast region, 4,696 villages/habitations are covered with mobile connectivity. The State wise details of mobile coverage in border villages of Northeast region is at **Annexure**.

Mobile coverage for any uncovered inhabited villages is provided by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) based on the techno-commercial viability. Government, through funding from Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), is implementing various schemes for expansion of telecom connectivity through installation of mobile towers in the rural, remote and border areas of the country. As on June 2025, 11 sites have been commissioned in Sikkim under DBN funded mobile schemes, providing mobile coverage to 13 villages, including border areas.

During the last five years (FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25), Rs. 1775.53 crore have been allocated/ disbursed under various Schemes of Digital Bharat Nidhi for strengthening mobile network in remote areas of North Eastern Region.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 635 to be answered on 23rd July, 2025 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Mobile Connectivity in Remote Border Areas in the Northeast Region"

State wise details of mobile coverage in border villages / habitations of Northeast region as on 31.05.2025:

S. No.	State	Total Villages/Habitations	Villages / Habitations having mobile coverage
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1502	1165
2	Assam	1237	1237
3	Manipur	263	194
4	Meghalaya	1272	1238
5	Mizoram	378	365
6	Nagaland	135	96
7	Sikkim	68	68
8	Tripura	345	333
	Total	5200	4696
