

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 644
ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2025**

**DELAYS AND IMPLEMENTATION GAPS IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS SCHEME
MOBILE CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS**

644. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are considerable delays in the execution of 4G mobile connectivity projects under the Aspirational Districts Scheme, especially in Bihar and Rajasthan, where significant gaps persist despite the project being initiated in 2021 and if so, the details of coverage status in Bihar and Rajasthan, district-wise including Saran in Bihar;
- (b) the details of the reasons for the delay in completing mobile service infrastructure in the targeted villages across the nine identified States, Phase and State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has considered using advanced geospatial mapping systems and contingency planning mechanisms to prevent future delays due to logistical or geographical hurdles, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the time proposed for achieving full coverage in the remaining villages; and
- (e) whether any accountability mechanism or penal provisions have been invoked against the implementing agencies for missing critical milestones in Bihar and other affected States?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) The implementation work for provision of 4G mobile services in the Aspirational Districts schemes are under progress including in Bihar and Rajasthan State. No village in the Saran district of Bihar has been planned under the Aspirational Districts schemes.

State wise villages/Towers planned for mobile coverage and covered under Aspirational Districts schemes for 9 states is available on Digital Bharat Nidhi website <https://usof.gov.in/en/home>.

Some of the sites under Aspirational Districts schemes got delayed due to delay in getting revenue land, forest/wildlife permission & right of way permission from states. Further, some sites also got delayed due to security, accessibility and other local issues.

(c) Yes, the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) is being used for planning of towers in the 4G Saturation scheme.

(d) & (e) Yes, the penal provisions such as Liquidated Damages (LD), Downtime Penalty etc. are invoked against the implementing agencies as per extant agreement.
