GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 488
ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2025

5G DEPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS

488.   SHRI ADHIKARI SOUMENDU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that Government has granted permission for 5G deployment in rural India with 5G technology and phased rollout strategies, aiming to provide faster internet for applications like precision agriculture, remote education and telemedicine; and

(b)   if so, the details of technological support and plan, which will help the entire country with economic and socio benefits through phased approach for transforming India into new heights therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a)   5G networks have been rolled out by Telecom Service Providers in all States/ UTs across the country and presently 5G services are available in 99.9% of districts in the country. As on 31st Oct 2025, 5.08 lakh 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have already been installed in the country and these BTSs also support provision of the faster internet for applications like precision agriculture, remote education and telemedicine etc.

(b)   Government has taken several initiatives for proliferation of 5G services, which, inter alia, include the following:

i.   Auction of spectrum for 5G mobile services in 2022.
ii.   Financial reforms to rationalize Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), Bank Guarantees (BGs) and interest rates.
iii.   Removal of Spectrum Usage Charges for spectrum acquired in auction of 2022 and thereafter.
iv.   Simplification of procedure for SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocations) clearance.
v.   Launch of GatiShakti Sanchar portal and RoW (Right of Way) Rules to streamline RoW permissions and clearance of installation of telecom infrastructure.
vi.   Time-bound permission for use of street furniture for installation of small cells and telecommunication line.
vii.   Established 100 5G labs at academic institutions across India for development of various socioeconomic 5G use cases and capacity building for building a 6G ready academic and start- up ecosystem in the country.

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