

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH MARCH, 2026**

BLACK SPOTS IN MOBILE AND TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORKS

†3122. **DR. ANAND KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there are black spots in mobile and telecommunication networks in many areas of the country, not only in rural areas but also in urban areas, due to which citizens face call drops, internet disruptions and difficulties in emergency communication;
- (b) if so, the number of mobile/telecom black spots identified in rural and urban areas in the country and the State/city-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is implementing any special scheme to improve connectivity in these black spot areas through installation of mobile towers, increasing network density, 4G/5G expansion or alternative technologies; and
- (d) the current progress of the said measures and the time by which it is prescribed to ensure uninterrupted telecom services?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Presently, field units of Department of Telecommunications have reported that approx. 8,985 villages in the country are uncovered (blackspots) with mobile services. Telecom Service Providers identify the uncovered areas in urban and rural through regular drive tests and provide coverage with optimization of existing network and by installing new Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) as per techno-commercial feasibility. State/UT-wise list of uncovered villages is attached as **Annexure-I**.

(c) & (d) For providing high bandwidth capacity internet/broadband connectivity and mobile services to uncovered remote & rural villages and islands in the country, following projects have been taken up with funding from Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN):

- i. **BharatNet project:** It is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages in the country. As of Jan-2026; 2,14,921 GPs have been made service ready under BharatNet project in the country. Further, Amended BharatNet Program (ABP), approved by the Government on 04.08.2023, is under implementation for up-gradation of existing network of BharatNet Phase-I and Phase-II, creation of network in balance GPs and connectivity to remaining non-GP villages on demand basis from their respective GPs.
- ii. **4G Saturation:** Under Government funded 4G Saturation Project and other Mobile projects, till Jan-2026, 23,994 mobile towers have been commissioned in the country.

- iii. **Submarine optical fibre cable:** Commissioning of Submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (2312 Km) and between Mainland (Kochi) and Lakshadweep Islands (1869 km). Creation of 225Km OFC network in Lakshadweep Islands for provision of FTTH & other services. These optical fibre cable projects have facilitated faster roll out of fixed line broadband/internet services, mobile services (4G/5G) and other high-speed data services in the Islands.

State/UT-wise list of uncovered villages as on 31.01.2026		
S.N.	Name of State / UT	No. of uncovered villages
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	127
2	Andhra Pradesh	394
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,185
4	Assam	163
5	Bihar	39
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	769
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0
9	Goa	38
10	Gujarat	213
11	Haryana	1
12	Himachal Pradesh	510
13	Jammu and Kashmir	248
14	Jharkhand	324
15	Karnataka	470
16	Kerala	0
17	Ladakh	10
18	Lakshadweep	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	960
20	Maharashtra	872
21	Manipur	191
22	Meghalaya	159
23	Mizoram	54
24	Nagaland	131
25	NCT of Delhi	0
26	Odisha	1,237
27	Puducherry	0
28	Punjab	2
29	Rajasthan	531
30	Sikkim	6
31	Tamil Nadu	3
32	Telangana	228
33	Tripura	7
34	Uttar Pradesh	36
35	Uttarakhand	68
36	West Bengal	9
	Total	8,985
