

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 44
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

MOBILE SERVICES IN RURAL AND SCHEDULED AREAS

***44. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:
SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps for providing mobile services in rural/ scheduled areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the funds sanctioned/spent so far during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve and enhance the mobile connectivity in such areas in future?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *44 FOR 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019 ON “MOBILE SERVICES IN RURAL AND SCHEDULED AREAS”.

(a) to (c) To accelerate and augment telecom connectivity in rural and scheduled areas across the country, following projects are approved/implemented by the Government:

- (i) Under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-I project, 2355 towers at a cost of Rs. 3,591.22 crore have been installed by Government of India. Under LWE Phase-II project, installation of 2217 mobile towers at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,194.83 crore has been approved for providing mobile connectivity covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal;
- (ii) Mobile connectivity in 354 villages of uncovered border areas including Ladakh and Kargil Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other priority areas at an estimated cost of Rs. 384.01 crore has also been approved. The remaining uncovered villages are being covered in a phased manner by the telecom service providers and Government;
- (iii) A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for mobile connectivity in the North Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage in uncovered villages and alongwith National Highways and to augment transmission network;
- (iv) Under BharatNet project, broadband connectivity in all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 42,068 crore;
- (v) Laying of submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands for providing connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (vi) Mobile connectivity to cover uncovered villages and along National Highway (NH 223) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (vii) Mobile connectivity has been enhanced in Lakshadweep Islands by installing 10 mobile towers;
- (viii) Satellite bandwidth augmentation upto 4 Gbps for Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- (ix) Satellite bandwidth augmentation upto 1.71 Gbps for Lakshadweep Islands.

State/UT-wise details of funds disbursed so far during each of the last three years under BharatNet and various other USOF schemes are at **Annexure-A and B** respectively.

Annexure-A

Annexure-A referred to in Part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *44 for Answer on 20-11-2019:

| DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS UNDER BHARATNET DURING LAST THREE YEARS | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Rs. in Crores | | | | |
| S.No. | State/UT | Year 16-17 | Year 17-18 | Year 18-19 |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar | 1.85 | 0.16 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Assam | 89.18 | 3.01 | 4.11 |
| 3 | Bihar | 190.10 | 22.54 | 48.37 |
| 4 | Chattisgarh | 241.20 | 236.82 | 239.56 |
| 5 | Haryana | 90.66 | 134.66 | 9.47 |
| 6 | Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh | 42.38 | 3.64 | 13.78 |
| 7 | Karnataka | 1.25 | 224.69 | 23.84 |
| 8 | Kerala | 25.96 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Maharashtra | 585.19 | 423.56 | 370.11 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 451.96 | 190.22 | 153.61 |
| 11 | Punjab | 236.29 | 0.00 | 52.64 |
| 12 | Rajasthan | 162.47 | 108.27 | 122.47 |
| 13 | Uttar Pradesh (East) | 423.17 | 10.51 | 126.85 |
| 14 | Uttar Pradesh (West) | 212.13 | 67.25 | 116.80 |
| 15 | Uttarakhand | 127.44 | 3.08 | 2.86 |
| 16 | West Bengal | 141.63 | 91.04 | 11.47 |
| 17 | Sikkim | 43.23 | 0.58 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Puducherry | 2.23 | 0.53 | 0.00 |
| 19 | Arunachal Pradesh | 17.68 | 13.97 | 0.60 |
| 20 | Manipur | 18.52 | 14.63 | 3.13 |
| 21 | Meghalaya | 24.75 | 19.55 | 2.08 |

| S.No. | State | Year 16-17 | Year 17-18 | Year 18-19 |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 22 | Mizoram | 13.21 | 12.35 | 1.69 |
| 23 | Nagaland | 20.36 | 16.09 | 13.70 |
| 24 | Tripura | 20.92 | 16.52 | 3.69 |
| 25 | Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu | 129.80 | 230.41 | 311.01 |
| 26 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Telangana | 8.24 | 112.28 | 7.43 |
| 28 | Odisha | 115.81 | 46.90 | 77.86 |
| 29 | Jharkhand | 81.39 | 48.13 | 112.13 |
| 30 | Himachal Pradesh | 52.51 | 1.30 | 0.64 |
| 31 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 84.80 | 181.21 |
| 32 | Tamilnadu | 0.00 | 110.64 | 0.00 |
| 33 | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) and Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) | 555.45 | 258.42 | 0.00 |
| | Advance given to BSNL for Uttar Pradesh (E) and Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 2302.00 | 863.00 |
| | Total | 4126.94 | 4808.55 | 2874.09 |

Annexure-B

Annexure-B referred to in Part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *44 for Answer on 20-11-2019:

| Disbursement of Funds under various USOF schemes (Other than BharatNet) during last three years | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Rs. in Crore | | | | |
| STATE/UT | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | Grand Total |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | 8.05 | 32.61 | 16.48 | 57.14 |
| ASSAM | 0.71 | 3.46 | 6.34 | 10.51 |
| BIHAR | 30.68 | 61.67 | 63.07 | 155.42 |
| CHATTISGARH | 63.41 | 206.18 | 85.36 | 354.95 |
| DELHI | | 0.04 | | 0.04 |
| DOT HEAD QUARTERS | 1290.35 | 68.19 | 94.36 | 1452.90 |
| GUJARAT | 0.00 | 14.65 | | 14.65 |
| HARYANA | 2.56 | 6.05 | 0.95 | 9.56 |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | 0.16 | 4.87 | 2.70 | 7.73 |
| JAMMU & KASHMIR, LADAKH | 1.97 | 8.54 | 0.03 | 10.54 |
| JHARKHAND | 97.90 | 180.73 | 129.32 | 407.95 |
| KARNATAKA | 0.67 | 24.93 | 0.01 | 25.61 |
| KERALA | 6.22 | 8.76 | 2.59 | 17.57 |
| MAHARASHTRA | 7.75 | 62.56 | 19.34 | 89.65 |
| MADHYA PRADESH | 4.50 | 26.01 | 4.09 | 34.60 |
| *NORTH EAST-I (NE-I) | 15.00 | 1.39 | 0.08 | 16.48 |
| **NORTH EAST-II (NE-II) | 14.26 | 1.02 | 0.01 | 15.29 |
| ODISHA | 35.14 | 141.05 | 72.92 | 249.10 |
| PUNJAB | 2.44 | 9.62 | | 12.06 |
| RAJASTHAN | 1.65 | 12.79 | 3.68 | 18.12 |
| TELANGANA | 20.62 | 24.73 | 19.87 | 65.21 |
| TAMIL NADU | 0.00 | 9.56 | 91.98 | 101.54 |
| UTTAR PRADESH | 10.67 | 50.04 | 6.75 | 67.45 |
| UTTARAKHAND | 0.00 | 3.41 | 0.00 | 3.41 |
| WEST BENGAL | 12.36 | 35.87 | 22.76 | 70.98 |
| Grand Total | 1627.05 | 998.75 | 642.67 | 3268.47 |
| *NE-I:- Mizoram, Meghalya, Tripura | | | | |
| **NE-II:- Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur | | | | |
