

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2814  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

**INTRODUCTION OF 5G**

**2814. SHRI JAYANT SINHA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current 5G penetration in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the plans of the Government to introduce 5G in smaller districts and non-metropolitan cities of the country; and
- (c) the plan of the Government to integrate villages of aspirational districts for provisioning of 5G based services?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (c) In a short period of 14 months since the launch of 5G services on 01-10-2022, 5G networks have been rolled out in 738 districts, including smaller districts, non-metropolitan cities and aspirational districts, across the country and a total of approximately 4 lakh 5G base stations have been installed. This is one of the fastest rollout of 5G networks in the world. Approximately 100 million mobile subscribers have started using 5G services in the country. With these numbers, India is now amongst the leading 5G ecosystems in the world.

The Government has taken several steps to facilitate faster rollout of 5G networks and to extend the reach of 5G services to all parts of the country, salient among which are as follows:

- (i) Series of financial reforms resulting in rationalization of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).
- (ii) Assignment of sufficient spectrum for mobile services through open & transparent auction.
- (iii) Spectrum sharing, trading, leasing and surrender has been permitted to promote efficient use.
- (iv) Simplification of Procedure for SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocations) clearance. After implementation of this simplified procedure, average processing time for SACFA Clearance has significantly reduced to just 5 days.
- (v) Right of Way (RoW) Rules, 2016 have been notified under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. Pursuant to this, all States/ UTs have notified their RoW policies. This has resulted in streamlining of RoW permissions and expeditious clearance for installation of telecom infrastructure.
- (vi) Procedure for application and time-bound permission for usage of street furniture for installation of small cells and telegraph line has been specified in Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2022.
- (vii) PM GatiShakti Sanchar portal has been launched to expedite RoW permissions.

State/UT wise details of 5G base stations installation are available on Department of Telecommunications (DoT) website.

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