

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1743

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014

INSTALLATION OF MOBILE TOWERS

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**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is giving top priority for installation of mobile towers in rural, tribal and border areas for providing mobile connectivity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, and the fund spent thereon;
- (c) whether proposals are pending for installing BSNL towers in different States, particularly in the State of Maharashtra; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the towers planned to be installed in the years 2014-15 and 2015-16, telecom-circle/division-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Schemes being implemented/planned with financial support from Government for expansion of mobile services in rural & remote areas of the country are as below:

(i) Mobile Services in Left Wing Extremism affected areas :

Proposal for Mobile Connectivity in 2199 locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas has been approved by Government on 20.8.2014 at an estimated cost of Rs. 3567.58 crores. The State-wise details of mobile towers are as under:

S. No.	State	No. of Mobile towers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41
2.	Bihar	184
3.	Chhattisgarh	497
4.	Jharkhand	782
5.	Maharashtra	60
6.	Madhya Pradesh	22
7.	Odisha	253
8.	Telangana	186
9.	Uttar Pradesh	78
10.	West Bengal	96
	Total	2,199

(ii) Comprehensive Telecom development Plan for North Eastern Region (NER):

Proposal for mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages, installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura has been approved by Government on 10.9.2014 at an estimated cost of Rs. 5336.18 crores. The State-wise details of estimated number of towers is as under:

S. No	Name of the State	No. of proposed Towers
1	Arunachal Pradesh	2042
2	Assam	1907
3	Manipur	437
4	Meghalaya	2173
5	Mizoram	246
6	Nagaland	160
7	Sikkim	9
8	Tripura	20
	Grand Total	6994

(iii) Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme A scheme has been implemented to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7,353 infrastructure sites/ towers spread over 27 states for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. State wise details of towers commissioned is at Annexure-I.

Under the Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme, as on 31.10.2014, a subsidy of Rs. 400.52 crores has been disbursed to various

service providers. The State wise disbursement is at Annexure-II.

(iv) Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands: Telecom Commission has given 'in principle' approval on 7.11.2014 for Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan including provision of mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands at a total estimated investment of Rs. 221.05 crores.

(c) & (d): There is no proposal pending with Government for installation of BSNL towers in different states including in the State of Maharashtra.

BSNL is implementing Phase VII of its expansion of mobile network by installation of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) for provision of 2G services and 3G services. Details of State-wise BTSs are attached at Annexure-III.