

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2985

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016

Telecom Services in Left-Wing Extremism Affected Areas

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken steps to increase telephone, mobile and internet connectivity in left-wing extremism affected States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of mobile towers proposed to be installed in such areas, State-wise;
- (c) whether only a small number of towers has been set up so far;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise including Odisha; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to expedite the work along with the time-frame fixed for the same??

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Government had approved the project on 20.08.2014 to provide Mobile services in 2199 locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas including 253 locations in Odisha. 1748 mobile towers out of 2199 mobile towers have been made operational by 30.04.2016. Remaining mobile towers are targeted to be made functional by the June, 2016. State-wise details are at Annexure.

Annexure

State-wise number of towers operational as on 30.04.2016 is as below :

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S. No. State Number of Locations Towers – operational

As on 30.04.2016

1. Andhra Pradesh 54 45

2. Bihar 184 184

3. Chhattisgarh 497 489

4. Jharkhand 782 561

5. Maharashtra 60 56

6. Madhya Pradesh 22 22

7. Odisha 253 149

8. Telangana 173 77

9. Uttar Pradesh 78 78

10. West Bengal 96 87

Total 2,199 1,748

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