

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2255
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2025**

SLOW ROLLOUT AND ADOPTION OF 5G SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY

2255 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of rollout of 5G services in the country, especially in the rural areas;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the adoption of 5G services by users has been below the targeted estimates;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has set a timeline for complete coverage of 5G services; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the details pertaining to the current status of adherence to such a set timeline?

ANSWER

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

(a) Since its launch in October 2022, 4.69 lakhs 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have been installed across the country, including in the rural areas, which is one of the fastest roll out of 5G mobile services in the world. At present, 5G mobile services are available in 99.6% of the districts in the country.

(b) & (c) The adoption rate of any technology may be assessed through the growth of its user base and installed infrastructure. Since the launch of 5G services in the country, approximately 25 crore mobile subscribers have started using 5G services and 4.69 lakhs 5G BTSs have been installed across the country. This shows that the 5G services are being steadily adopted by users.

(d) & (e) Government has prescribed frequency band-wise minimum rollout obligations in the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for auction of spectrum conducted for 5G services. These minimum rollout obligations are required to be met over a period of five years in a phased manner from the date of allocation of spectrum. Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have expanded their 5G network across the country and have gone beyond these minimum rollout obligations. Further expansion of mobile network beyond the mandatory rollout obligations, depends upon the techno-commercial considerations of the TSPs.
