

generally install their equipments for wireless access on the shared towers or towers rented out by Infrastructure Providers. As such, presently, the operator-wise details of mobile towers in the country are not maintained.

Awareness about benefits and usage of internet in rural areas

1984. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study or survey to assess the awareness about benefits and usage of internet in rural areas, particularly in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the State-wise details of the number of villages which have access to internet facilities, particularly in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has published a report on the subject "Internet in India 2015". As per the report, the purpose of internet access in rural India including rural areas of Tamil Nadu is that 44% users access the internet for entertainment, 37% users for online communication, 33% users for social networking, 14% for online ticketing and 5% for online shopping.

(b) The State-wise details of the number of villages which access to internet facilities is not available. However, State-wise list of total number of inhabited villages and number of uncovered villages by mobile telephone service is available and the same is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of Uncovered Villages

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Total number of inhabited villages	No. of Uncovered Villages
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16335	3812
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	2886
3.	Assam	25372	2885
4.	Bihar	39073	2534
5.	Chhattisgarh	19567	4041
6.	Goa	320	65
7.	Gujarat	17843	1275

1	2	3	4
8.	Haryana	6642	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17882	2416
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6337	460
11.	Jharkhand	29492	5949
12.	Karnataka	27397	0
13.	Kerala	1017	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	51929	5926
15.	Maharashtra	40959	4792
16.	Manipur	2515	610
17.	Meghalaya	6459	2389
18.	Mizoram	704	258
19.	Nagaland	1400	137
20.	Odisha	47675	10398
21.	Punjab	12168	91
22.	Rajasthan	43264	770
23.	Sikkim	425	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	15049	113
25.	Telangana	10347	1009
26.	Tripura	863	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	97814	266
28.	Uttarakhand	15745	1876
29.	West Bengal	37469	487
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	684	190
31.	Puducherry		0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		5
33.	Daman and Diu		1
34.	Lakshadweep		1
TOTAL		597608	55669