

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4028
ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2026**

IMPROVE DIGITAL AND TELECOM CONNECTIVITY

4028. SHRI MANI A:

WILL the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major initiatives taken by the Government during the last three years to improve digital and telecom connectivity in Tamil Nadu particularly in rural and underserved areas;
- (b) the details of villages, Gram Panchayats and public institutions connected with high-speed broadband in Tamil Nadu including Dharmapuri district during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to improve mobile network coverage and internet services in Dharmapuri district by installing new telecom infrastructure and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the measures taken to promote digital services, e-governance, online education and telemedicine through improved telecom connectivity in Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the further initiatives proposed to provide reliable, high-speed telecom and broadband services to all rural areas of Tamil Nadu including Dharmapuri district?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): As of June 2026, out of 16,488 villages in Tamil Nadu (as per the data of Registrar General of India), 16,479 villages have mobile connectivity, while 16,447 villages have 4G mobile connectivity.

In Dharmapuri district, out of 487 villages, 485 villages have mobile connectivity, while 478 villages have 4G mobile connectivity. The district-wise details of 4G mobile coverage status of villages in Tamil Nadu are at **Annex**.

As on 30.06.2026, 1,36,526 4G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and 39,522 5G BTSs are providing connectivity in Tamil Nadu including 2,289 4G BTSs and 637 5G BTSs in Dharmapuri district.

Mobile coverage for any uncovered inhabited villages is provided by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) based on the techno-commercial viability. Government has approved various schemes with funding from Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), for expansion of telecom connectivity through installation of mobile towers in the uncovered rural and remote areas of the country including Tamil Nadu. Further, the Government has approved the Amended BharatNet

Programme to provide high-speed fiber broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs), and non-GP villages on demand basis.

The Government of India has approved the proposal of Government of Tamil Nadu for Utilization of BharatNet Network under Amended BharatNet Program in the State and agreement for the same has already been shared with the State Government for signing.

During June 2026, 9,280 GPs, including 210 GPs in Dharmapuri, are operational under BharatNet in the state of Tamil Nadu. Under the Government-funded 4G Saturation Project, as on 30.6.2026, 257 mobile towers have been commissioned in the State of Tamil Nadu, covering 308 villages including 11 mobile towers covering 19 villages in Dharmapuri district.

Annex

Annexure referred to in reply of part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4028 to be answered on 12th August, 2026 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament regarding "Improve Digital and Telecom Connectivity"

District-wise details of 4G mobile coverage status of villages in Tamil Nadu:

S. no.	District	Total number of villages (as per RGI data of 2019)	Number of villages with 4G Connectivity
1	Ariyalur	214	214
2	Chengalpattu	601	601
3	Coimbatore	256	254
4	Cuddalore	843	843
5	Dharmapuri	487	478
6	Dindigul	370	370
7	Erode	306	306
8	Kallakurichi	582	577
9	Kancheepuram	436	436
10	Kanniyakumari	115	115
11	Karur	175	175
12	Krishnagiri	661	657
13	Madurai	592	591
14	Nagapattinam	494	494
15	Namakkal	427	427
16	Perambalur	159	159
17	Pudukkottai	756	756
18	Ramanathapuram	398	398
19	Ranipet	316	316
20	Salem	616	609
21	Sivaganga	539	538
22	Tenkasi	229	228
23	Thanjavur	810	810
24	The Nilgiris	41	41
25	Theni	101	99
26	Thiruvallur	716	716
27	Thiruvarur	546	546
28	Thoothukkudi	450	450
29	Tiruchirappalli	469	468
30	Tirunelveli	284	284
31	Tirupathur	226	225
32	Tiruppur	309	308
33	Tiruvannamalai	1110	1107
34	Vellore	340	338
35	Viluppuram	921	920
36	Virudhunagar	593	593
Total		16,488	16,447
