



**Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications**

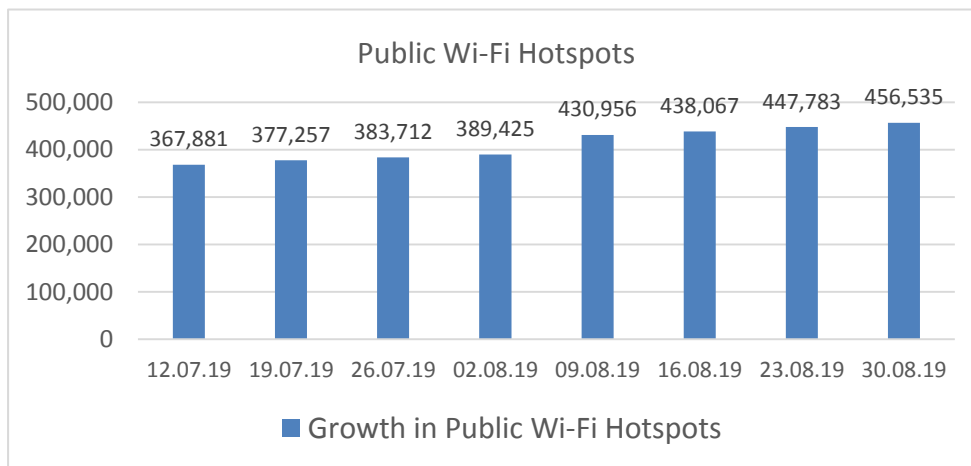
100 days Achievement in Telecom Sector

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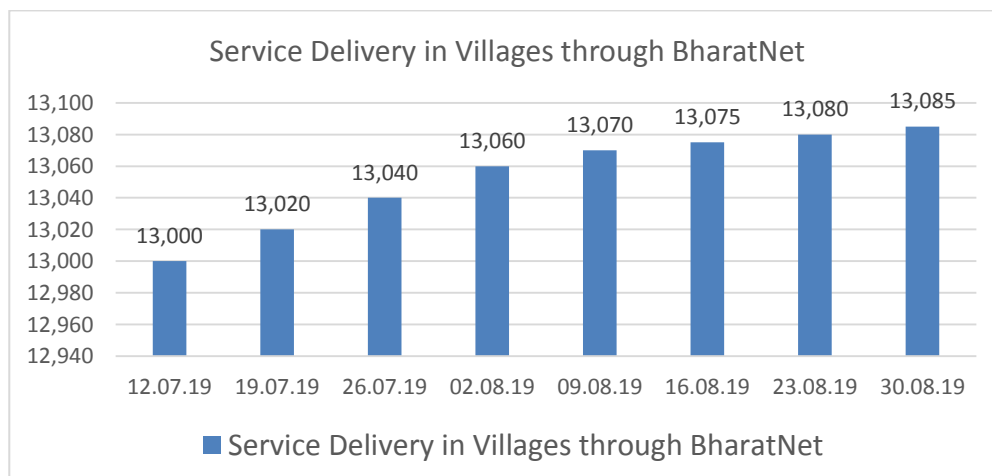
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Infrastructure

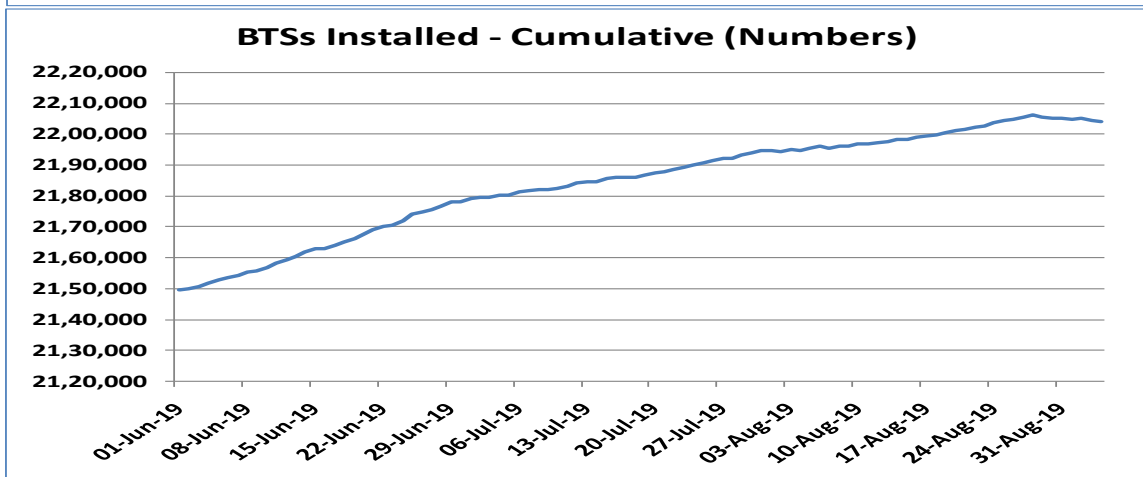
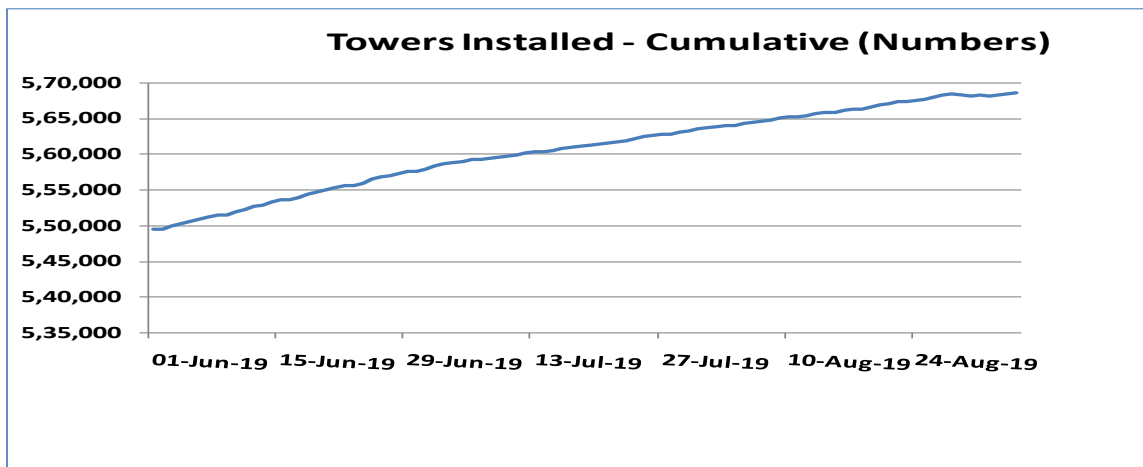
(1) Public Wi-Fi hotspots – Public Wi-Fi hotspots ensure last-mile delivery of broadband to users and are much easier to scale than adding new mobile towers. It bolsters connectivity inside buildings, airports, etc. and it allows for offloading from telecom networks to ease congestion. Wi-Fi networks offer affordable, scalable and versatile technologies that can facilitate the spread of Internet access in rural and urban areas. Accordingly, more than 4.5 lakh Public Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed till 30th August; 2019 and work is going on for adding millions of Wi-Fi in coming years.



(2) Service delivery in villages through BharatNet–Under BharatNet project around 1.25 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) have already been connected with high speed broadband connectivity (around 4500 GPs have been connected in last 100 days). This opens up opportunity for mobile operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable TV operators, content providers to launch various services in the rural areas. Further, last mile connectivity is being provided through Wi-Fi access points at GPs for service delivery, for which till date 13,085 Wi-Fi hotspots in GPs have been installed.

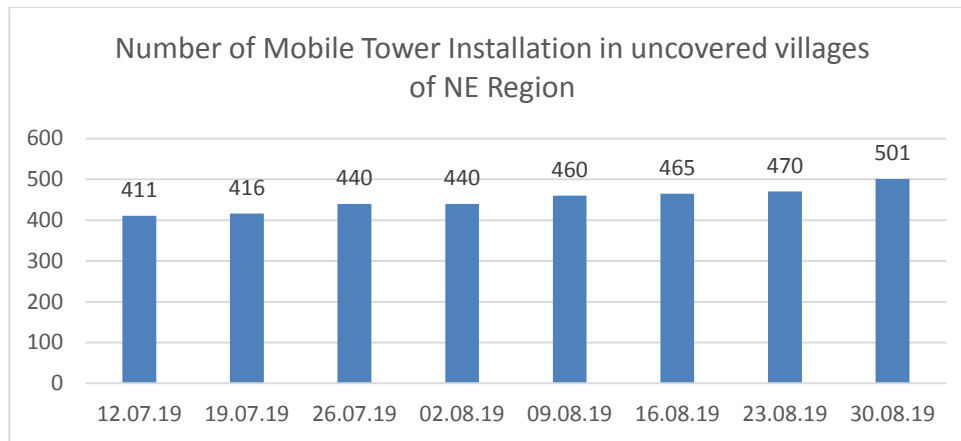


(3) Growth in Telecom Infrastructure– To improve mobile connectivity across the country, in last 100 days approximately 19,000 towers and 55,000 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) have been added.



CONNECTING the Unconnected

(1) NE Region Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan - Under Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region (NER) uncovered villages in the North-Eastern Region and seamless connectivity on national highways in the region have to be covered by setting up of 2004 mobile towers. In the North East Region more than 500 Mobile towers have been installed till 30th August, 2019.



(2) Improvement of Island Connectivity - For better connectivity to residents and tourists and for executing e-governance works, satellite bandwidth augmentation has been executed in the island territories. This will give a significant socio-economic boost to these remote Islands. Further, work for augmenting bandwidth in both the Islands and for providing connectivity through submarine optical fibre cable is underway.

- **Lakshadweep Islands**- existing bandwidth of 318 Mbps has been upgraded to 1 Gbps by installation of 25 VSAT terminals.
- **Andaman & Nicobar Islands**- existing bandwidth of 2 Gbps has been upgraded to 3.79 Gbps by installation of 25 VSAT terminals.

(3) Mobile Connectivity in J&K and Ladakh - For provision of mobile coverage in uncovered far flung villages where there are no existing mobile coverage, a project for uncovered 53 villages in Ladakh and 95 villages in J&K has been prepared and RFP is being released shortly.

Policy Reforms

(1) In-flight & Maritime connectivity services – Flight and Maritime Connectivity (FMC) Rules were notified in December 2018 to provide wireless voice or data or both type of services on ships within Indian territorial waters and on aircraft within or above India or Indian territorial waters. This will open the airspace and territorial waters for telecommunication services. Gateways for providing services have been established by two companies and satellite bandwidth has been provided to these two companies on Indian Satellites by ISRO. Maritime connectivity services are ready to be launched whereas for inflight connectivity services, airlines are getting required equipment installed.

(2) Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) for States and Union Territories - In order to create robust and high quality digital communications infrastructure, to address Right of Way (RoW) challenges and to attract investments the National Digital Communication Policy-2018 (NDCP) envisages creation of Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) of the States/UTs. The BRI covers six broad areas, viz., policy, accelerated action, service infrastructure, enabling infrastructure, public access of internet and fiberization. On 16th July 2019 the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

Capacity Building

(1) Skill Development - A Pilot Scheme of DoT was launched, to open 10 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Sanchar Kaushal Vikas Pratisthans' for skill development training in Telecom Sector. This will create skilled manpower in the telecom sector especially in rural areas. At the end of the training, each trainee is assessed by Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC), an assessment agency approved for by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE). In last 100 days, 3874 candidates have been successfully assessed by TSSC.

Ease of Doing Business

(1) New Policy on Licenses for Promotion of R&D and Emerging Technology— To promote R&D in telecom sector and to streamline the process of allocation of spectrum a new policy was issued in July 2019. The policy addresses scope, size, quantum and pricing of spectrum. The policy also covers license for 5G trials. The policy will lead to process simplicity, ease of doing business and transparency. It will ensure affordable spectrum with low transaction costs. The new comprehensive policy covers licenses for experimentation and technology trials, manufacturing and testing and demonstration.

(2) Simplified Import Licensing – Recognizing the importance of continued improvement in regulatory framework for catalysing investments and facilitating compliance requirements, DoT has simplified the import licensing requirements for Domestic Original Telecom Equipment Manufacturers wherein these manufactures in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) can now import Transceivers/ Radio Modules against their valid Dealer Possession License without any need for import license and quantities as per requirement.
