

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1661
ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2025**

LACK OF ACCESS TO INTERNET HAMPERED DIGITAL PAYMENTS

1661. SHRI RAJESH NARANBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of internet penetration in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of internet penetration in the rural areas, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether lack of access to internet has hampered digital payments in many areas and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government during the last five years to improve the quality of digital access in rural India?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) As of 31st March, 2025, there are 969.10 million internet subscribers in the country which includes 407.69 million internet subscribers in the rural area of the country. The State/UT wise details are at **Annexure-A**.
- (c) The total volume of digital payment transactions in the country has increased from 2071 crore in FY 2017-18 to 22,831 crore in FY 2024-25, growing at a CAGR of 41%.
- (d) The Government is implementing various schemes under Digital Bharat Nidhi for expansion of internet facilities through installation of 4G mobile towers in the rural and remote areas of the country under 4G saturation project. In addition, Amended BharatNet Program aims to provide broadband connectivity such as Wi-Fi Hotspots, Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections etc. to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages on demand basis.

Annexure-A referred to in Part (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1661 for answer on 30.07.2025

State/UT wise number of Internet Subscribers per 100 population at the end of Mar-25				
S.No.	State(s)	Total Subscribers (in million)		
		Rural	Urban	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	17.98	18.49	36.47
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.54	0.39	0.93
3	Assam	13.38	6.95	20.33
4	Bihar	37.57	16.80	54.37
5	Chhattisgarh	8.55	8.96	17.51
6	Goa	0.63	1.78	2.41
7	Gujarat	19.18	36.67	55.86
8	Haryana	10.11	20.02	30.14
9	Himachal Pradesh	4	2.67	6.67
10	Jharkhand	10.94	8.43	19.37
11	Karnataka	21.47	38.83	60.30
12	Kerala	18.22	17.84	36.06
13	Madhya Pradesh	21.13	28.36	49.50
14	Maharashtra	32.84	76.62	109.46
15	Manipur	0.98	1.32	2.30
16	Meghalaya	1.34	0.75	2.08
17	Mizoram	0.54	0.70	1.24
18	Nagaland	0.98	0.68	1.66
19	Odisha	17.10	8.78	25.89
20	Punjab	9.60	17.59	27.19
21	Rajasthan	26.07	25.97	52.04
22	Sikkim	0.37	0.27	0.64
23	Tamil Nadu	18.01	45.47	63.48
24	Telangana	13.08	23.11	36.19
25	Tripura	1.07	1.13	2.19
26	Uttar Pradesh	65.41	65.72	131.14
27	Uttarakhand	4.81	5.05	9.86
28	West Bengal	25.61	38.13	63.75
Union Territories				
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.23	0.21	0.43
30	Chandigarh	0.03	1.36	1.39
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0.30	0.55	0.84
32	Delhi	0.31	35.56	35.88
33	Jammu and Kashmir	4.58	5.34	9.92
34	Ladakh	0.32	0.11	0.43
35	Lakshadweep	0.05	0.004	0.05
36	Puducherry	0.36	0.79	1.15
Total		407.69	561.42	969.10
