

**Govt. of India**  
**Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**  
**Department of Telecommunications**

# **NORTH EASTERN REGION VISION – 2020**

**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS**  
**FOR IMPROVEMENT OF**  
**TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTRE**  
**IN**  
**NORTH EASTERN REGION**

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**NORTH EASTERN REGION VISION- 2020**

**Plan with Monitorable Targets for the Improvement of Telecommunication Infrastructure in  
NER**

The North Eastern Region (NER) comprises of eight States viz. Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Sikkim. The NE Region has a strategic situation. All-round development of the region is of utmost importance for the country. With this view, special focus has been given to the development of this region. This region is characterized by extremely tough terrain with very limited transport and other infrastructure. At the very outset it was appreciated that to bring this region into the national mainstream, it will be essential to substantially improve the telecommunication facilities.

2. The region comprises of three Territorial Telecom Circles, viz. Assam (covered the State of Assam), NE-I (comprises of the States of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura) and NE-II (includes the States Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland). The eighth State of NE Region is Sikkim which is under the Territorial Circle of West Bengal. The Long Distance Telecommunication Network is maintained by Eastern Telecom Region (ETR). To ensure rapid implementation of various schemes in NER a CGM (NE Task Force) is posted at Guwahati. Under the Special component plan, BSNL makes provision for the development of telecom facilities in N.E. Region.

3. 'North Eastern Region Vision 2020' a document released by Hon'ble Prime Minister lays special emphasis on development of Telecommunication facilities in NER through telecom infrastructure for improving economic well-being of the region.

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4. Though the measures taken by the Govt. has resulted in rate of increase of teledensity in NER more than the rate of increase on all India basis, the overall teledensity in NER is still lagging behind than that of rest of India. For faster development of telecommunication in the region special efforts are being made. USO Fund has launched a scheme to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing infrastructure sites (towers) spread over various districts of the country including North Eastern states for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there is no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. The infrastructure so created shall be shared by three service providers for provision of mobile services.

5. USO Fund has also launched a scheme to provide wire-line broadband connectivity to rural & remote areas by leveraging the existing rural exchanges infrastructure and copper wire-line network. The objective is to make the rural and remote areas broadband enabled by facilitating the service providers for creating Broadband infrastructure. The rural broadband connectivity will cover institutional users, such as Common Service Centers (CSCs), being set up by DIT, Gram Panchayats, Higher Secondary Schools and Public Health Centers, as well as Individual Users located in the villages.

6. The Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT has directed USOF to expedite infrastructure support in rural areas for the mobile and broadband services, and explore the possibility of combining Mobile phone and Broadband in one scheme, so as to make it simple, easier and economical. Running of the towers on non-conventional sources of energy has also been suggested by the Hon'ble Minister to the USOF.

7. With a view to provide sufficient back-haul capacity to integrate the voice and data traffic from the access network in the rural areas i.e. villages to their core network, USOF has taken initiative to strengthen the OFC network in the rural and remote areas. This

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scheme considers OFC Network augmentation between the blocks' HQ and Districts' HQ to begin with. Assam has been taken up first for implementation. BSNL has been selected as the successful bidder for the scheme.

8. It is proposed to cover other uncovered areas through mobile services for which additional towers are being identified. Villages or cluster of villages (**i.e.**) having population of 500 or more and not having mobile coverage have been taken into consideration for installation of the towers. The Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT has suggested USOF that 'Cluster' should be defined as group of villages in an area that are being connected and not the towers.

9. USO Fund is working on a scheme for providing financial assistance by way of subsidy for the wireless broadband active infrastructure by utilizing the existing passive infrastructure available with the Telecom service providers. This scheme would provide broadband coverage to villages in a phased manner. The Scheme would be taken up after the BWA and 3G Spectrum auction process is complete.

10. For induction of new technological developments in the telecom sector on a Pilot Project basis in rural and remote areas, a scheme has been launched wherein about Five Pilot Projects shall be provided subsidy support. Support is also being considered for renewable energy resources (Solar, Wind, Diesel Hybrid solutions) for 28 sites on pilot basis including one each in all North Eastern states. Further support is also being considered for mobile charging stations in 5000 villages in the country through TERI project of Lighting a Billion Lives (LaBL). 100 numbers of such charging stations would be provided in the state of Assam.

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11. Taking into consideration the efforts being made by USOF, BSNL and Private players to increase telecom infrastructure and services, and also the emphasis laid by 'NER Vision 2020' a 'Future Plan With Monitorable Targets for Improvement of Telecommunication Infrastructure in NER' has been drawn up with half years targets upto December, 2012 as a first step.

12. The Future Plan envisages to double the teledensity in NER (from as on 30-09-2009) by December, 2012 and to cover about 90% of the geographical area of the States. This is in line with the emphasis laid by the Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT to USOF to increase the wireless penetration to 90%-95% in the next 3 years. The entire National Highways network in NER is targeted to be covered by June, 2011 and the State Highways by December, 2011. Broadband connections in NER are targeted to have a four fold increase by December, 2012. All DHQs and BHQs are targeted to be covered by December, 2010. All villages in NER are targets to be provided with VPT by June, 2011. The development of Telecom infrastructure in North Eastern Region will be closely monitored on twelve parameters mentioned in the Plan.

13. It is hoped that concerted efforts of all stakeholders will ensure achievements of the targets and bring prosperity to the people of North Eastern Region through Telecom Development.

14. The State-wise monitorable targets in 12 components follow:

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**NORTH EASTERN REGION VISION 2020**

**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR ASSAM**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh	-	73.50	90.04	105.14	118.24	130.34	140.44	157.54
2.	TELEDENSITY	%	-	24.47	30.18	33.72	38.26	42.88	47.34	54.88
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	78436	35288	40000	43000	46000	53000	61000	70000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	25124*	17070	19009	20182	21035	22000	23000	24000
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	266.55*	206.00	213.00	217.00	221.00	226.00	232.00	240.00
6.	VPT	Nos	-	23687	23863	24023	25124	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	37329	54667	71667	87667	107667	127667	149300
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	5416.74	5616.74	5886.74	6166.74	6516.74	7016.74	7516.74
9.	DHQ	Nos	26	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	223	216	220	223	-	-	-	-
11	National Highways	Kms	2816	2545	2600	2700	2816			
12	State Highways	Kms	2102	1593	1650	1750	1850	2102		

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR MIZORAM**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Working connection (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh	-	4.49	5.39	5.89	6.39	6.89	7.39	7.89
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		45.53	53.54	59.20	64.30	69.23	74.54	79.12
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	21087	3953	5400	6500	8000	11000	14500	19000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	707*	120	250	400	600	650	707	-
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	8.91*	4.36	5.5	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.91
6.	VPT	Nos	-	692	707	-	-	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	2504	3774	5274	7274	9774	11774	14000
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	502.59	625.19	700.19	775.19	850.19	925.19	1000.00
9.	DHQ	Nos	8	8		-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	22	17	22	-	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	927	224	450	690	927			
12.	State Highways	Kms	440	150	200	250	315	440		

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR TRIPURA**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		8.31	10.02	12.16	14.30	16.44	18.98	22.12
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		23.39	28.44	32.45	37.5	41.6	47.00	53.44
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	10492	6756	8400	9000	9500	10000	10492	-
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	858*	176	400	600	800	858	-	-
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	31.92*	8.38	11.0	14.0	18.0	22.0	26.0	30.0
6.	VPT	Nos	-	804	858	-	-	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	4973	6795	8795	11295	14295	17295	20295
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	1097.72	1179.72	1254.72	1329.72	1404.72	1479.72	1554.72
9.	DHQ	Nos	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
	National Highways	Kms	400	200	255	315	400			
	State Highways	Kms	90	88	90	-	-			

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR MEGHALAYA**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		10.09	11.1	12.5	14.1	15.9	17.1	18.7
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		39.16	44.5	49.9	56.1	61.2	67.3	75.16
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	22429	7017	8300	9500	11000	13000	16000	20000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	5782*	392	700	1700	3500	4000	4600	5400
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	23.19*	8.04	9.98	10.98	13.13	15.63	18.00	21.50
6.	VPT	Nos	-	3084	4706	5306	5782	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	4092	6491	8491	10491	12491	14400	16800
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	735.23	823.17	865.17	915.17	965.17	1023.17	1095.17
9.	DHQ	Nos	7	7	-					
10.	BHQ	Nos	39	29	39	-	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	810	236	450	600	810	-		
12.	State Highways	Kms	180	128	150	180	-	-		

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		3.52	3.76	4.01	4.44	5.07	5.72	6.25
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		28.87	30.87	32.95	36.5	41.6	47.00	55.69
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	83743	4920	8000	15000	19000	24000	35000	50000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	3863*	577	902	1127	1409	2009	2600	3400
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	11.00*	4.23	5.12	5.64	6.20	7.20	8.20	10.00
6.	VPT	Nos	-	1440	2171	2971	3863	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	3102	4000	5000	6500	8000	9900	12200
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	1554.85	1650.15	1750.15	1850.15	1950.15	2050.15	2150.15
9.	DHQ	Nos	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	84	46	55	84	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	392	145	217	330	392			
12.	State Highways	Kms	1232	445	612	889	1077	1232		

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR MANIPUR**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		8.75 (Pvt.+BSNL)	9.37	10.57	11.58	13.29	15.00	17.00
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		36.32	38.9	43.9	48.1	55.2	62.3	70.6
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	22357	4655	6689	8027	9632	12000	16000	20000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	2315*	1645	1779	1850	1924	1975	2025	2199
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	22.87*	8.18	9.91	10.90	11.99	13.00	16.00	20.00
6.	VPT	Nos	-	1890	2226	2301	2315	-	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	2652	3500	4600	5700	6900	8500	10500
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	1133.74	1233.74	1383.74	1583.74	1833.74	2133.74	2483.74
9.	DHQ	Nos	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	34	25	29	34	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	959	417	580	751	959			
12.	State Highways	Kms	668	208	310	415	516	668		

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR NAGALAND**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connections (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		6.11 (Pvt.+BSNL)	6.80	7.48	8.30	9.43	10.61	12.48
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		27.64	30.77	33.85	37.6	42.7	48.01	56.49
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	16529	5570	7625	8921	10438	11500	12500	15000
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	1278*	788	869	912	958	1020	1115	1125
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	19.89*	9.44	11.43	12.58	13.84	15.25	17.50	19.00
6.	VPT	Nos	-	1211	1278	-	-	--	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	3114	4000	4600	6300	8300	10100	12000
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	1910.75	2179	2379	2579	2779	2979	3179
9.	DHQ	Nos	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	52	35	42	52	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	494	460	465	473	485	-		
12.	State Highways	Kms	1094	696	745	797	912	1094		

\*as per Census 2001

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**PLAN WITH MONITORABLE TARGETS FOR SIKKIM**

S. No.	Parameters	Unit	Total	Status as on 30-09-2009	Targets up to					
					June.10	Dec.10	June, 11	Dec.11	June, 12	Dec.,12
1.	Total connection (Pvt.+BSNL)	Lakh		1.25	1.36	1.55	1.83	2.20	2.82	3.02
2.	TELEDENSITY	%		20.81	22.77	25.85	30.6	36.7	47.01	50.49
3.	Coverage of Area of State	Sq.km	7096	2055	2400	2900	3500	4200	5000	6400
4.	Coverage of Villages	Nos	450*	276	315	340	350	370	400	430
5.	Coverage of Population	Lakhs	5.4*	2.3	2.41	2.56	2.66	3.25	4.00	5.00
6.	VPT	Nos	-	384	450	-	-	--	-	-
7..	Broadband connections	Nos	-	2293	3500	4400	5400	6500	7700	8900
8.	OFC	RKMs	-	728.64	805.35	855.35	955.35	1005.35	1055.35	1105.35
9.	DHQ	Nos	4	4	-	-	-	--	-	-
10.	BHQ	Nos	26	26	--	-	-	-	-	-
11.	National Highways	Kms	92	52	60	92	-	-		
12.	State Highways	Kms	165	157	165	-	-	-		

\*as per Census 2001