

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 213
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2025**

TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MAHA KUMBH MELA 2025

213 # SHRI BRIJ LAL:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total investment made in upgrading telecom infrastructure in Prayagraj for Maha Kumbh Mela, 2025;
- (b) the accountability mechanism in place to evaluate the effectiveness of telecom-based disaster response measures;
- (c) whether an independent technical and financial review will be conducted post-event to assess the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the telecom infrastructure deployed for Maha Kumbh Mela 2025;
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN
REGION
(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)**

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.213 FOR 20TH MARCH, 2025 REGARDING “TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MAHA KUMBH MELA 2025.”

(a) To augment the mobile network capacity and provide uninterrupted telecommunication services to the devotees in the Maha Kumbh Mela-2025, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) commissioned 816 new Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and laid 192 Km of Optical Fibre Cable in the Mela area. In addition to this, 2917 existing BTSs were upgraded and 826 new BTSs were installed in the Prayagraj City area to cater the demand in the city. Further, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) assigned 35 MHz of additional spectrum, on temporary basis, to TSPs for improving mobile network capacity in the Mela area.

For deployment of additional telecom infrastructure for the Mahakumbh, TSPs have made a cumulative investment of Rs. 243 Crores.

(b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has taken all necessary measures as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP-2020) for Telecommunication Services for Responding to Disaster. A special task force was formed by DoT in Prayagraj w.e.f 11.11.2024 to oversee the expansion of telecom infrastructure work in Prayagraj City & Kumbh mela Area including monitoring of the preparedness of TSPs & Telecom Infrastructure Providers for disaster management. In addition to the special task force, the State Telecom Disaster Co-ordination Committee (STDCC) of DoT already exists in Uttar Pradesh (East) Telecom circle to manage and respond to the telecom needs during a disaster.

(c) & (d) The network infrastructure was designed to accommodate the anticipated high user density, ensuring that all voice, data and messaging services remained fully operational without interruption. The telecommunications network operated efficiently throughout the event, with no instance of the peak capacity being reached. The deployed telecom infrastructure successfully provided uninterrupted telecommunication services to an unprecedented influx of devotees.
