GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3698 TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD APRIL, 2025

4G SERVICE BY BSNL

3698 DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress achieved by BSNL in the provision of 4G coverage in the country;
- (b) the details of the company that has acquired contracts for supplying 4G machinery; and
- (c) the number of districts in the country where 4G service is not being provided by BSNL?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) In line with Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, BSNL has placed purchase order for 1 Lakh indigenously developed 4G sites for pan India deployment. Supply of 4G equipment has started from September 2023 and as on 08.03.2025, total 83,993 4G sites have been installed and 74,521 sites are ON-Air.

BSNL issued Purchase Orders to M/s ITI Limited (Reservation Quota) for West Zone Radio Access Network (RAN), M/s Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) for Core Hardware in all zones and RAN in North Zone + South Zone + East Zone & M/s Centre for Development of Telematics (CDOT) for software of 4G Core for all zones. As per the tender condition, M/s TCS has to complete the rollout of 1 Lakh 4G sites.

Out of total 734 District Headquarters (DHQ) all over India, 94 DHQ are not covered by 4G services of BSNL. BSNL is progressively adding more number of 4G BTS to cover the uncovered areas.
