

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3216
ANSWERED ON 21ST AUGUST, 2025**

LICENSE TO STARLINK FOR SATELLITE BASED INTERNET SERVICES

3216 SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has granted Starlink a license to provide satellite-based internet services in the country to enhance rural connectivity, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps being taken to ensure timely spectrum allocation and security compliance for safe and efficient rollout;
- (c) the manner in which this initiative supports Digital India and addresses last-mile connectivity in remote and mountainous regions; and
- (d) whether such public-private satellite partnerships will be scaled to promote equitable access to digital services and bridge the digital divide, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) granted Unified License (UL) with authorizations for Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) service, Commercial VSAT CUG service, and Internet Service Provider (ISP) 'A' service to M/s Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited on 06.06.2025, after agreeing to the stipulated terms and conditions of the UL, including security conditions.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) sought the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on terms and conditions of spectrum assignment, including spectrum pricing, in respect of licensees intending to provide satellite-based communication services. TRAI provided its recommendations on 09.05.2025.

Further, in order to enable the licensees to demonstrate compliance with the security and technical conditions for their Non-Geo Stationary Orbit (NGSO)-based satellite network authorized by IN-SPACE, DoT has issued instructions on 10.10.2024 for provisional assignment of spectrum.

(c) & (d) Satellite-based communication services can provide connectivity in rural, underserved and unserved areas including remote and mountainous regions, which are otherwise difficult to be covered through terrestrial media such as optical fiber, microwave, etc. Further, as per the License conditions, the licensee will provide satellite-based communication services without any discrimination from any applicant, at any place in the service area for the service(s) authorized. This will support in bridging the digital divide, addressing the last mile connectivity issues and promoting equitable access to digital services.
