

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 200
ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2025**

NETWORKS IN RAIGAD AND KONKAN REGIONS

200 # SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to deploy emergency communication equipment such as satellite phones, radio repeaters or mobile signal boosters in Ratnagiri and wider Konkan region in view of the fact that the area has witnessed wide variations in 3G/4G/5G network coverage and numerous “dead zones”; and
- (b) whether Government is considering expediting the implementation of satellite-based emergency communication systems (such as portable terminals) in network-inaccessible locations such as coastal and hilly areas of Raigarh district in view of the fact that the licensing and other restrictions applies to the use of satellite phones?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) 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) & (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.200 FOR 18TH DECEMBER, 2025 REGARDING “NETWORKS IN RAIGAD AND KONKAN REGIONS.”

(a) & (b) The uncovered villages in the country, including Raigad and Konkan regions of Maharashtra, are being provided telecom coverage progressively through Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) funded schemes and telecom service providers on their own. Satellite-based communication services can provide connectivity in rural, remote, underserved and unserved regions, which are otherwise difficult to be covered through terrestrial media. Further, the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are free to deploy the mobile signal boosters/repeaters within their network to improve the coverage/quality of service.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is providing Satellite Phone Services through a GSO satellite under the Sui Generis License granted by DoT in the country including Raigad and Konkan regions of Maharashtra.

Further, DoT has issued Unified License (UL) with authorization of Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) service to three companies, namely OneWeb India Communications Private Limited, JIO Satellite Communications Limited, and Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited for providing Satellite-based communication services. Prior to rollout of operations in India, the licensee is required to successfully demonstrate the system capabilities with respect to security aspects.

It is also mentioned that as per the License conditions, the licensee will provide satellite-based communication services without any discrimination to any applicant at any place in the service area for the service(s) authorized.
