GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2111
ANSWERED ON 06th AUGUST, 2026

ROLLOUT OF SATELLITE BASED BROADBAND SERVICES

2111 SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently granted approvals for the rollout of satellite-based broadband communication services in the country;

(b) the framework adopted to integrate satellite communication with existing telecom infrastructure; and

(c) the details of expected benefits, implementation timeline and measures to ensure affordable broadband access in underserved areas?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has granted Unified License (UL) with Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) service authorisation for the National Area to three companies, namely OneWeb India Communications Private Limited, JIO Satellite Communications Limited, and Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited, to provide, inter alia, satellite-based internet services in the country.

As per the license conditions, commencement of commercial operations by the licensees are subject to compliance with the stipulated security and technical conditions, alongside necessary spectrum assignment.

The rules for grant of authorisation to provide telecommunication services have been notified under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Telecommunications Act, 2023. The service authorisation framework notified under the Telecommunications Act, 2023 is technology neutral and permits authorised entities to provide telecommunication services using any technology, including satellite network.

Satellite-based communication services provide affordable 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.

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