

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2445
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2023**

NEW TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN TELECOM SECTOR

2445. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has planned for induction of new technological developments in the telecom sector in rural and remote areas within the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to fund pilot projects under this programme within the country, if so, the details thereof including in the State of Assam;
- (d) the details of the target set under this programme; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) & (b) Sir, Government has created Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) by utilizing 5% of annual collections from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for funding research and development of technologies, products and services for the purpose of providing telecom services in rural and remote areas.

(c) to (e) Pilot projects for trial deployment of 4G BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) at 63 sites and E-band radios at 13 sites in State of Karnataka and manufacturing of six 5G BTSs by Indian companies have been funded by the Government through USOF. No pilot project is planned for the state of Assam at present. These projects are targeted to be completed by June 2023.
