

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3616
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2023**

MOBILE TOWERS IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

3616. SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received request from Member of Parliament to sanction mobile towers for Flat Bay, Bolcha, Bengali Basti and Ranchi Basti villages of Baratang Islands in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken on the request;
- (c) whether non-availability of mobile network in these areas has affected students in pursuing their studies and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to provide mobile towers for Flat Bay, Bolcha, Bengali Basti and Ranchi Basti villages of Baratang Islands in Andaman and Nicobar Islands in a time bound manner?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) A letter has been received in BSNL from Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Andaman & Nicobar Lok Sabha Constituency, for installation of a tower at Flat Bay, Bolcha, Bengali Basti and Ranchi Basti villages of Baratang Island. Bolcha village has been planned to be covered under USOF project for providing 4G mobile coverage in uncovered areas of Andaman and Nicobar islands. Flat Bay, Bengali Basti and Ranchi Basti villages have been included by BSNL in its proposal of villages to be covered under USOF 4G saturation scheme.
