

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3651  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**MERGING BBNL WITH BSNL**

**3651. SHRI T.R.V.S. RAMESH:  
DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to merge Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to fast track its ambitious BharatNet project that aims to connect 6,00,000 villages with high speed internet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) On 27-07-2022, the Union Cabinet accorded approval for merger of Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). The role/responsibilities that were being discharged by BBNL will be carried out by BSNL which inter-alia includes maintenance and utilization of BharatNet network. The access to BharatNet will be provided on a non-discriminatory basis to all Service Providers and the asset created under BharatNet will be a National Asset.

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