

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 494
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2023**

3G AND 4G SERVICES UNDER ATMA NIRBHAR INITIATIVE

494. SHRI NATARAJAN P.R.:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether BSNL has taken serious steps to provide 3G and 4G services across the country with the Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative of the Government of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of towers purchased through Expression of Interest (EoI) and commercial negotiations and balance to be purchased;
- (c) the timeline fixed for providing 3G and 4G services with the required advanced infrastructure facilities to compete with the private telecom giants; and
- (d) the details of the fund provision made and utilised so far from the revival plan?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) In accordance with Atmanirbhar initiative of the Government, BSNL floated Expression of interest (EoI) for development and deployment of indigenous 4G technology. BSNL has placed purchase order for 1 Lakh sites to rollout 4G services all over India over a period of 24 months.

(d) Details of fund allocation and utilization:

Financial Year	(Amount in ₹ crore)	
	Fund Allotted	Fund Utilized (Capital infusion, Viability Gap Fund, Ex-gratia and Pension)
2019-20	4,646.00	4,452.86
2020-21	11,269.24	12,059.57*
2021-22	3,046.74	2,977.11
2022-23	54,244.11	45,568.79
2023-24	56,996.75	42,381.56 (up-to 28.11.2023)

* Actual expenditure exceeded allocation on account of claims of committed liability such as pension.
