

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 759
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

POOR NETWORK ISSUE

†759. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps taken to deal with the problem of poor network issues in the country;
- (b) whether the area under the Valmiki Nagar Lok Sabha Constituency which is surrounded by forest areas, always faces mobile network issues and if so, the details thereof along with the steps that have been taken to improve the same; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (c) Telecom connectivity in the Country has improved significantly in last 10 years.
- The total number of BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) have increased from 6.49 Lakh in March-2014 to 28.78 Lakh in December-2023.
 - Total mobile subscribers have increased from 90.45 Cr. in March 2014 to 115.41 Cr. in November 2023.
 - Internet subscribers have increased from 25.15 Cr. in March-2014 to 89.58 Cr. in June-2023.
 - As of November 2023, out of 6,44,131 villages in the country (village data as per Registrar General of India), around 6,17,150 villages i.e. 95.8% villages are covered with mobile connectivity.
 - Under BharatNet project, more than 2.1 lakh villages have been made service ready.

To further improve telecom connectivity in the country, Government is implementing various schemes.

- A total of 41,160 mobile towers have been sanctioned with an outlay of Rs. 41,331 Cr to provide 4G connectivity to about 55 thousand villages.
- Scope of BharatNet program has been expanded to connect all inhabited villages with an outlay of Rs. 1.88 Lakh Cr.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of Telecom Service providers (TSPs) against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service (QoS) parameters through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). These parameters/ benchmarks have been laid down by TRAI by way of QoS regulations and have been amended from time to time, as per requirement of telecom sector, emergence of new technologies and compliance.
