

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2714
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2019**

TELECOM FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS OF UTTAR PRADESH

†2714. **SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and the details of the schemes to strengthen telecommunication facilities in rural areas of the country, especially in the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether most of the mobile towers installed in rural areas of the country are not functioning and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) To strengthen telecommunication facilities in rural areas of the country, following projects are approved by the Government:

- 1) Under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-I project, 2,355 towers have been installed by Government of India out of which, 78 towers are in Uttar Pradesh. Under LWE Phase-II project, installation of 2,217 mobile towers has been approved for providing mobile connectivity including 42 mobile towers in the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- 2) Mobile connectivity in 354 villages of uncovered border areas including Ladakh and Kargil Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other priority areas has also been approved including 9 villages in the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- 3) A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for mobile connectivity in the North Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage in uncovered villages and alongwith National Highways and to augment transmission network;
- 4) Under BharatNet project, broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country;
- 5) Laying of submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands for providing connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- 6) Mobile connectivity to cover uncovered villages and along National Highway (NH 223) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- 7) Mobile connectivity has been enhanced in Lakshadweep Islands by installing 10 mobile towers;
- 8) Satellite bandwidth augmentation upto 4 Gbps for Andaman & Nicobar Islands;
- 9) Satellite bandwidth augmentation upto 1.71 Gbps for Lakshadweep Islands.

(b) & (c) No Sir. All Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are consistently meeting the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) Quality of Service (QoS) benchmarks for the network quality including network availability.
