

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3901  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2019**

**TELECOM SERVICES IN HIMACHAL PRADESH**

**†3901. SHRI SURESH KUMAR KASHYAP:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fixed line telephone/ mobile service is not working properly in hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government proposes to use any other means of communication so that people may get proper network facility and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service parameters laid down by TRAI by way of Quality of Service regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). The performance is assessed for a License Service Area (LSA) as a whole.

As per the TRAI's PMR for Basic & Cellular Services for the quarter ending September 2019, all the service providers are meeting all the benchmarks for all the parameters in Himachal Pradesh Service area. Moreover, as reported by field units, fixed line telephone/mobile service is working properly in hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The steps taken by Government to improve telecom network in the country in uncovered areas are given below:

- Under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-II project, Government has approved installation of 2217 mobile towers for providing mobile connectivity.
- Scheme for providing mobile connectivity in 354 villages of uncovered border areas, Ladakh and Kargil Region and other priority areas.
- A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for mobile connectivity in the North Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage in uncovered villages, along with National Highways and to strengthen transmission network.

- Laying of submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands for providing connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Satellite Bandwidth Augmentation upto 4 Gbps for Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Mobile connectivity to cover uncovered villages and along National Highway (NH 223) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Augmentation of Satellite bandwidth up to 1.71 Gbps for Lakshadweep Islands.
- Under BharatNet project to provide broadband connectivity in all the Gram Panchayats (approx 2.5 lakh) in the country.
- Several policy initiatives also taken to facilitate infrastructure growth which includes permitting trading/sharing/ liberalisation of spectrum already granted, permitting passive & active infrastructure-sharing, Notification of Right of Way Rules- 2016, making available government land/buildings for installations of towers etc.

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