### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4755 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021

#### SOLAR POWERED MOBILE TOWERS

#### †4755. SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up mobile towers powered by solar and other renewable energy for improving communication services in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe dominated areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the operator-wise details of mobile towers set up in Rajasthan, district-wise; and
- (c) the number of BSNL mobile towers being operated in Banswara-Dungarpur and the number of mobile towers likely to be installed in the said area in the current year?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Government has proposed to set up mobile towers, powered by solar and other renewable energy through various schemes under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to provide telecommunication services in the rural and remote areas of the country. These schemes aim to benefit all the people living in remote and rural areas including Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population. However, no separate information is maintained regarding setting up of mobile towers powered by solar and other renewable energy for improving communication services specifically for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe dominated areas of the country.
- (b) The operator-wise details of mobile towers set up in Rajasthan, district-wise is attached as **Annexure**. The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), as per the requirement of DoT provide these numbers as and when asked.
- (c) The number of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) mobile towers being operated in Banswara and Dungarpur districts are given below:

Name of District	Number of BSNL mobile towers as on 28-02-21	
Banswara	69	
Dungarpur	60	

Telecom companies explore opportunities to expand their network coverage by installing new towers. This is subject to techno-commercial feasibility.

BSNL and other Telecom Companies have expressed their inability to provide their future plan.

## **Annexure**

# Number of mobile towers set up in Rajasthan as on 28.02.21

S No	District	Name of Telecom Service Provider				
	District	BHL	RJIL	VIL	BSNL	
1	Ajmer	596	869	333	254	
2	Alwar	659	864	553	217	
3	Banswara	222	238	153	69	
4	Baran	164	342	115	74	
5	Barmer	547	854	304	147	
6	Bharatpur	370	504	307	119	
7	Bhilwara	459	665	284	185	
8	Bikaner	526	961	319	239	
9	Bundi	159	300	114	74	
10	Chittaurgarh	315	419	180	113	
11	Churu	372	746	299	147	
12	Dausa	197	287	172	96	
13	Dhaulpur	118	260	103	36	
14	Dungarpur	184	207	126	60	
15	Hanumangarh	292	613	237	127	
16	Jaipur	1951	2541	1300	606	
17	Jaisalmer	192	352	116	78	
18	Jalore	325	407	244	108	
19	Jhalawar	214	351	108	76	
20	Jhunjhunu	381	530	289	198	
21	Jodhpur	888	1551	548	353	
22	Karauli	176	242	157	79	

25 26	Pali Pratapgarh	429 78	575 166	238	169 31
27	Rajsamand	201	322	112	71
28	Sawai Madhopur	191	345	142	93
29	Sikar	533	649	410	205
30	Sirohi	221	294	125	82
31	Sriganganagar	413	643	309	132
32	Tonk	216	357	177	93
33	Udaipur	749	968	329	227
	Total	13,400	20,206	9,025	4,980

# <u>Legends:</u>

BHL : Bharti Hexacom Limited

BSNL : Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

RJIL : Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

VIL : Vodafone Idea Limited

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