

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2795
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021**

EXPANDING THE NETWORK OF BSNL/MTNL

†2795. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand the network of BSNL/MTNL equipped with latest techniques;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken cognizance of closing of mobile towers hired in the remote foothills, hilly and economically backward areas without any prior notice before the termination of contract;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government for easing the inconveniences caused to the customers in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) BSNL and MTNL augment their networks based on techno-commercial considerations. The Government on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan of BSNL which inter-alia includes administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services through capital infusion by the Government into BSNL/MTNL. BSNL is in the process of deployment of indigenous 4G technology through Proof of Concept route under Atma-nirbhar initiative of the Government of India.

(c) to (e) BSNL has not closed any hired mobile tower in remote foothills, hilly and economically backward areas without any prior notice before termination of agreement. However, the decision is taken by BSNL on the basis of traffic and commercial viability.
