GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2896 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021

5G SERVICES TO IMPROVE DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

2896. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to introduce 5G services to improve the Government run programme Digital India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has fixed any target in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has also fixed any condition for the auction of 5G spectrum and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

- (a) & (b) The Government has taken, inter alia, the following steps to create a conducive environment for launch of 5G services in the country:
 - i) Permission has been granted to Telecom Service Providers for conducting 5G Technology trials during May 2021 with a validity period of up to one year,
 - ii) An indigenous 5G Test Bed has been set up at a total cost of Rs. 224 crore to facilitate for experimenting and demonstrating 5G applications/ use cases.

The 5G services are slotted to be introduced gradually as the ecosystem grows from the year 2022 in the country.

(c) The auction of 5G spectrum is dependent on recommendation made by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).
