

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 468  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2022**

**MOBILE NETWORK COVERAGE**

468. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has the details of tribal hamlets in the Idukki Parliamentary Constituency that has no mobile network coverage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to use the funds earmarked for tribal development to increase the mobile network coverage of these areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) As per information from field units of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), in Idukki Parliamentary Constituency (Ernakulum and Idukki districts) out of 173 villages, 163 villages are covered and 10 villages (74 numbers of Hamlets), are reported to be uncovered with mobile connectivity.

(c) & (d) Government is implementing various schemes under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). To enhance telecom connectivity in the rural and predominately tribal areas of the country including North Eastern Region (NER) and areas affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Aspirational Districts and Islands, around 9960 mobile towers have been planned under USOF. Further the scope of BharatNet project has been recently extended up to all inhabited villages beyond Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country.

\*\*\*\*\*