

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 443  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024**

**BSNL NETWORK COVERAGE**

**443 ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to complete the rollout of BSNL 4G across the country with a special focus on hilly regions like Idukki;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has sanctioned or proposes to sanction funds for the creation of network coverage in remote areas inhabited by tribes in the State of Kerala; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) to (d) BSNL has placed Purchase Orders for procurement of 1 Lakh indigenously developed 4G sites for pan India deployment including hilly regions of Idukki. Supply of 4G equipment has been started from September, 2023 which will cover all the existing tower locations without 4G coverage.

Further, under 4G Saturation Project, 332 new 4G mobile towers are planned in BSNL Kerala Circle including 80 new 4G sites in Idukki district.

For telecom network connectivity in uncovered villages of rural and remote areas of Kerala, as on 30.06.2024, total fund disbursed from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is Rs. 348.95 Crore under BharatNet Project and Mobile Tower Projects of USOF.

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