GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1568 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024

5G TECHNOLOGY IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

1568. SHRI SURESH KUMAR KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 5G technology has been launched in all the districts of the Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the advantages arising out of 5G services which are being proposed by BSNL;
- (c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the same; and
- (d) the total population proposed to be covered under the 5G spectrum services?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) 5G services have been launched in all the districts of Himachal Pradesh. Further, 5G networks have been rolled out in all States/ UTs across the country and presently 5G services are available in 779 districts out of 783 districts in the country. As on 31st Oct 2024, more than 4.6 lakh 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have been installed in the country, including 4,256 BTSs in Himachal Pradesh.

Advantages of 5G services include higher peak data rates, lower latency and higher spectrum efficiency over the previous 4G Mobile Technology.

- (c) & (d) Government has taken several initiatives for proliferation of 5G services, which, inter alia, include the following:
 - i. Assignment of sufficient spectrum for mobile services through auction.
 - ii. Series of financial reforms resulting in rationalization of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), Bank Guarantees (BGs), interest rates and penalties.
 - iii. Spectrum sharing, trading and surrender has been permitted for efficient use of spectrum.
 - iv. Simplification of Procedure for SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocations) clearance.
 - v. Notification of Telecommunications (Right of Way) Rules and launch of PM GatiShakti Sanchar portal has resulted in streamlining of RoW permissions and expeditious clearance for installation of telecom infrastructure.
 - vi. Provision has been made in RoW Rules for time-bound permission for usage of street furniture for installation of small cells and telecommunication line.

Around 4,256 number of 5G BTSs have been installed in the Himachal Pradesh as on 31st Oct 2024. The range of 5G cell coverage is determined by number of factors including the frequency band being deployed, geographical terrain conditions, radiation power and population density of the area. Further, it is estimated that more than 60% of population in the State of Himachal Pradesh is covered by 5G mobile services. Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are continuously augmenting the 5G network across the country including Himachal Pradesh.
