

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2540
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2024**

BSNL AND MTNL SERVICES FOR THE MP'S

†2540. **SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to address the problems, particularly the issue of network and data coverage, in the services being provided by BSNL and MTNL to the Members of Parliament, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any special scheme to improve and expand the networks of BSNL and MTNL to provide high quality data services, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to integrate the networks of these two PSUs (BSNL and MTNL) or to improve their connectivity, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) To improve the telecom services, BSNL has placed purchase order for procurement of one lakh indigenously developed 4G sites for pan India deployment. As on 06.12.2024, 61,492 sites have been installed and 51,135 4G sites are ON-Air. Further, BSNL has taken over the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of mobile services from MTNL in Delhi w.e.f. 01.04.2021 and in Mumbai from 01.09.2021.

To further expand the network coverage in rural and remote areas, BSNL is implementing various projects such as 4G Saturation Scheme, B order Out Post (BOP)/Border Intelligence Post (BIP), Left Wing Extremism and augmentation of telecom infrastructure in Lakshadweep Islands etc.

Further, Amended Bharatnet program has been approved by the Union Cabinet on 04.08.2023 with an outlay of Rs. 1.39 Lakh Crores to extend fiber to all Gram Panchayats and villages on demand basis, including provisions for 1.5 Crores high speed FTTH broadband connections in rural areas. BSNL is the Project Management Agency for this scheme.
