

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2541
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH DECEMBER, 2024**

6G PLAN IN BSNL AND MTNL

2541. ADV K. FRANCIS GEORGE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the role of BSNL and MTNL in promoting the development and adoption of 6G technology in India, particularly in rural and underserved areas;
- (b) the manner in which BSNL and MTNL are contributing to bridging the digital divide in villages by providing low-cost internet services;
- (c) the specific initiatives undertaken by BSNL and MTNL to ensure high-speed internet access to all rural areas; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government plans to further leverage the relatively low prices offered by BSNL and MTNL to expand digital infrastructure across the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) BSNL is installing indigenously developed one lakh 4G sites across the country. The equipment is 5G upgradable.

BSNL is entrusted with ambitious projects of the Government to provide coverage to uncovered villages in the country including rural and underserved areas, such as 4G Saturation Scheme, Boarder Out Post (BOP)/Boarder Intelligence Post (BIP), Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and augmentation of telecom infrastructure in Lakshadweep Islands etc.

Further, Amended Bharatnet program has been approved by the Union Cabinet on 04.08.2023 to improve penetration of high speed FTTH broadband in rural areas, wherein there is a provision to provide 1.5Cr FTTH connections distributed across all States/UT's. BSNL is the Project Management Agency for this scheme.
