GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 372 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2025

BSNL HIGH-SPEED SERVICES IN GUJARAT

*372. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the actions taken so far by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to enhance telecom services in rural areas of Gujarat;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received any representation from the State Government concerning this issue and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the immediate actions taken by the Government to address this issue especially and ensure in rural regions high-speed internet access in rural areas of Gujarat?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 372 FOR 26TH MARCH, 2025 REGARDING "BSNL HIGH-SPEED SERVICES IN GUJARAT."

(a) to (c) In Gujarat, more than 97 % villages are covered by all TSPs which includes 56% villages covered by 2G/3G/4G mobile services of BSNL. Further, BSNL planned to upgrade 4,492 2G/3G sites to 4G under Phase IX.2 Project out of which 3,955 4G sites have been commissioned as on 08.03.2025. In addition, under 4G Saturation Project, 701 nos. mobile towers were planned in Gujarat out of which, 509 nos. towers have been commissioned as on 28.02.2025.

Further, to provide Broadband access in rural areas of Gujarat, all 14,320 GPs planned under BharatNet Phase-I & II have been made service ready. Under BharatNet, a total of 55,418 Kms of OFC has been laid in Gujarat and 1,23, 277 nos. FTTH (Fiber-to-the-Home) high speed connections are provided in GPs/villages using BharatNet network. Further, Amended BharatNet Programme has been approved by Union Cabinet on 04.08.2023, under which up-gradation of existing network of BharatNet Phase-I & II, creation of network in balance GPs/non-GP villages (on demand), Operation and Maintenance for 10 years and utilization have been approved for pan India including Gujarat. In Gujarat, connectivity to balance 4 GPs and non-GP villages (on demand basis) are proposed to be provided under Amended BharatNet Programme.

The Government of India has not received any representation from the State Government on the issue of enhancing telecom service by BSNL in rural areas of Gujarat.
