

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1746
ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2025**

BSNL 5G NETWORK IN LAKSHADWEEP

1746. SHRI MUHAMMED HAMDULLAH SAYEED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the urgent need to upgrade the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) network in Lakshadweep to 5G, considering the geographic isolation of the islands and the growing dependence on digital connectivity and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any proposals are under consideration to deploy 5G infrastructure in Lakshadweep, including installation of compatible towers, equipment modernisation and enhancement of backhaul capacity and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure reliable high-speed communication in the Union Territory through 5G-enabled services especially in remote islands;
- (d) whether the Government plans to provide special financial or technical support to BSNL for implementing 5G upgrades in Lakshadweep due to the higher cost of infrastructure in isolated island territories; and
- (e) if so, the details of the timeline proposed by the Government for the rollout and commissioning of 5G services across the islands of Lakshadweep?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) In line with Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, BSNL has placed purchase order for indigenously developed 4G sites for pan India deployment. Supply of 4G equipment has started from September 2023 and as on 30.11.2025, total 97,401 4G sites have been installed and 94,458 sites are ON-Air. In Lakshadweep, total 47 4G sites are ON-Air. The equipment is 5G upgradable from technology perspective.
