

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1594
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024**

BSNL SERVICES IN GUJARAT

1594. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the actions taken by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) taken to enhance telecom services in rural areas of Gujarat as of now;
- (b) whether the Government has received any representation from the State Government concerning this issue;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the actions implemented or proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle this problem, especially in rural regions; and
- (e) the immediate actions taken by the Government to ensure high-speed internet access in rural areas of Gujarat?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) Existing equipment of 2G, 3G technology at 2,910 locations/ Towers in rural areas of Gujarat are planned for replacement with indigenously developed 4G technology by BSNL. Further, the Union Cabinet on 27.07.2022 has approved 4G Saturation Scheme to provide 4G mobile services in uncovered villages across the country and as a part of this scheme, 949 villages of Gujarat are planned for 4G services.

BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages in the country. To provide high speed internet services in rural areas of Gujarat, BharatNet connectivity has been extended to 14, 316 GPs as on 31.10.2024 and balance GPs/non-GP villages (on demand) are planned under Amended BharatNet Programme.
