

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 264
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2024**

REFORMS IN SATELLITE COMMUNICATION

**264 SHRI P P CHAUDHARY:
SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI:
SMT. KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN:
DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND:
SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has introduced reforms in satellite communication, particularly regarding user terminal stations on moving platforms, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the specific measures taken to enhance accessibility and affordability of satellite-based services for citizens through these reforms;
- (c) the timeline for implementation of these reforms;
- (d) the number of service providers who have shown interest in offering satellite-based services on moving platforms; and
- (e) whether the Government has set any targets for coverage expansion and price reduction of satellite-based services through these reforms, if so, the details thereof mentioning inter-alia the monitoring mechanisms put in place in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Department of Telecommunications (DoT), as part of Satellite Communication Reforms-2022, permitted User Terminal stations on moving platforms for provisioning of satellite-based connectivity, subject to compliance with relevant Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) standard(s) and conditions mentioned therein, by amendment in the Unified License issued on 06.05.2022.
- (b) The Satellite Communication Reforms-2022 facilitated ease-of-doing business, streamlined a number of processes including implementation of “single scrutiny workflow” and rationalized various charges. The recent Space Sector reforms enable larger participation of non-government entities for building/leasing, owning and operating the satellite systems for providing satellite-based services. These reforms aim to enhance the accessibility and affordability of satellite-based services for citizens.
- (c) Satellite Communication Reforms-2022 have already been implemented.

(d) Satellite-based communication service providers, namely Cloudcast Digital Limited, and Hughes Communications India Private Limited have taken in-principle clearance for providing satellite-based communication services on moving platforms.

(e) DoT's Satellite Communication Reforms-2022 have simplified the regulatory procedures and reduced financial charges on the licensees. As a result of the recent Space Sector reforms, many satellite operators have shown interest and applied for authorization for providing the satellite communication over India. It is envisaged that with more players, enhanced satellite capacity would be available and competition in this segment will lead to better quality and affordable services, along with expansion of coverage in rural and far-flung areas.
