

Regarding need to strengthen the telecom infrastructure across Odisha and resuming Intra-Circle Roaming (ICR) facility for better connectivity

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Madam Chairperson, I rise to raise a matter of public importance regarding the need for permanent activation of the Intra-Circle Roaming (ICR) facility for mobile subscribers in Odisha. At present, ICR is activated only during natural calamities which are infrequent luckily, but connectivity challenges persist throughout the year. Hence, this facility should be available not only during emergencies as technological advancement is meant to improve the quality of life.

Several districts of Western Odisha, particularly Balangir and Subarnapur, continue to suffer from chronic network gaps due to low 4G penetration, weak signal strength and frequent power cuts. Many residents cannot afford multiple SIM cards as it is an economically backward area.

In view of these, I urge the Government to permit permanent ICR for mobile subscribers across Odisha which would ensure uninterrupted access to private network for calls, SMS, data, emergency services, digital access for students, reliable network for schools, banks and government schemes and thereby strengthen the telecom infrastructure across the State.