

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026**

GLOBAL SATELLITE PHONE SERVICE (GSPS)

***176. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the BSNL started sale of Global Satellite Phone Service (GSPS) to the general public and private enterprises and if so, the details thereof including the date of rollout and the categories of services offered;
- (b) whether the Government has prescribed any guidelines or eligibility criteria for citizens and private organisations to avail the GSPS services and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the charges for GSPS devices and call/data usage have been finalised by BSNL and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government plans to regulate the tariff to ensure affordability and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any measures to ensure secure communication and prevent misuse of GSPS by unauthorised users and if so, the details thereof?

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

- (a) to (e) 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 (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.176 FOR 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026 REGARDING “GLOBAL SATELLITE PHONE SERVICE (GSPS).”

(a) BSNL provides Voice Call and SMS services through Global Satellite Phone Service (GSPS) to General Public and Private Enterprises w.e.f. 01.01.2018.

(b) & (e) DoT issued the instructions vide letter dated 12.06.2017 in respect of provision of Satellite based services, which inter-alia mandated that BSNL is required to complete the Customer Acquisition Process prescribed for mobile connections, as amended from time to time. BSNL shall also obtain from the subscriber the details such as place of use, period of use and the purpose for which Satellite handset shall be used. Additionally, the GSPS service is inherently a secure communication as information is transferred in encrypted form.

(c) BSNL provides only voice and SMS services through GSPS. The details of Tariff Plan for GSPS are attached as **Annexure-I**.

(d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is an independent authority for regulation of tariff for telecommunication services in India .As per the extant regulatory tariff provisions, tariff for telecommunication service is under forbearance except for services such as National Roaming, Rural Fixed Line Services, mobile number portability charges and leased circuits .‘Nil ’tariff has been prescribed for Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) services to promote financial inclusion etc.among rural unbanked feature phone users .

Annexure-I of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 176 for 11.02.2026

Tariff Plan for Global Satellite Phone Services (w.e.f. 01.01.2026)**A. Post-paid Plans**

		Government		Commercial
		Plan G1	Plan G2	Plan C1
1	Fixed Monthly Charges (₹)	3,500	5,835	11,670
2	Free Talk Time (in minutes) or SMS	16	30	60

B. Pre-Paid Plans

		Government		Commercial	
		Plan G1 (Monthly)	Plan GA (Annual)	Plan C1 (Monthly)	Plan CA (Annual)
1	Plan charges (₹)	3,500	38,500	5,835	64,185
2	Free Talk Time (in minutes) or SMS	20	240	30	360

C. After the free talk time and SMS are over than additional Call/SMS charges are required to be paid by the subscribers at the rate of

- ₹ 18 /min/SMS for Government customers.
- ₹ 25 /min/SMS for Commercial customers.

D. Additional Recharges/Top-ups for pre-paid plans are available in denominations of (₹) 200/500/1000/5000/10000.

*All charges above are excluding GST
