## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1597 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2024

### MOBILE NETWORK IN BARMER-JAISALMER

### †1597 SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many villages and hamlets of Barmer-Jaisalmer Parlimentary Constituency are still deprived of mobile network;
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to connect such villages with mobile connectivity network immediately along with the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has formed the TAC committee under the Chairmanship of MPs and if so, the time by which the said committee is likely to be reconstituted in Barmer-Jaisalmer Parliamentary Constituency and the main objective of forming the said committee along with the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) In Barmer-Jaisalmer Parliamentary Constituency, out of 3,624 villages, 3,267 villages are covered with mobile connectivity.

Government through funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is implementing various schemes, including 4G Saturation Scheme, for providing mobile network coverage in all uncovered villages in the country.

(c) The Department of Telecommunications has constituted the Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) under the chairmanship of Hon'ble MPs throughout the country, including Barmer-Jaisalmer Parliamentary constituency, with effect from 14.07.2024 for a period of two years i.e. from 14.07.2024 to 13.07.2026.

The main objectives of forming the TAC are as follows:

- TAC works as an interface between telephone service consumers and BSNL.
- It gives the public a confidence that their aspirations relating to telecom services are properly represented and taken care of.
- To educate the public/bring awareness among the telephone service consumers about the various services provided by BSNL.
- To suggest measures for improving telecom services and efficiency.

\*\*\*\*