

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 249
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH JULY, 2024**

5G TECHNOLOGY

†249 **DR. RAJEEV BHARADWAJ:
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 5G technology has been launched in all the districts of the country including Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the advantages arising out of 5G services which are being proposed by BSNL and MTNL;
- (c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the same; and
- (d) the total population proposed to be covered under the 5G spectrum services?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) 5G services have been launched in all the districts of Himachal Pradesh. Further, 5G networks have been rolled out in all States/ UTs across the country and presently 5G services are available in more than 750 districts and 8000 towns/cities in the country. More than 4.4 lakh 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have been installed till date, including 4,101 BTSs in Himachal Pradesh.

BSNL/ MTNL has proposed to launch 5G services after rollout of its 4G network. The advantages of 5G services include higher peak data rates, lower latency and higher spectrum efficiency over the previous fourth generation networks.

(c) & (d) Government has taken several initiatives for proliferation of 5G services, which, inter alia, include the following:

- i. Assignment of sufficient spectrum for mobile services through auction.
- ii. Series of financial reforms resulting in rationalization of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), Bank Guarantees (BGs), interest rates and penalties.
- iii. Spectrum sharing, trading and surrender has been permitted as per extant Notice Inviting Application (NIA) terms & conditions and guidelines issued from time-to-time.
- iv. Simplification of Procedure for SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Radio Frequency Allocations) clearance.
- v. Notification of Right of Way (RoW) Rules and launch of PM GatiShakti Sanchar portal has resulted in streamlining of RoW permissions and expeditious clearance for installation of telecom infrastructure.
- vi. Provision has been made in RoW Rules for application and time-bound permission for usage of street furniture for installation of small cells and telegraph line.

Accordingly, in a short period of 19 months after the launch of 5G services on 01-10-2022, approximately 17 crore wireless data subscribers have started using 5G services in the country. Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have expanded the 5G services and have gone beyond the minimum rollout obligations, as prescribed in the NIA for spectrum auction. Expansion of mobile services beyond these obligations depends on the techno-commercial consideration of the TSPs.
