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Title: Need to make BSNL towers functional in Kandhamal district and other Left Wing Extremism areas in the country.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (KANDHAMAL): The Government is planning to install 2200 telecom towers in the LWE areas. I would like to draw attention of the Government towards 25 BSNL towers which were installed in Kandhamal district and other LWE areas in the year 2008 but could not be made functional till date. The govt. is incurring heavy losses by way of rent and security of these towers, which are practically of no use to the residents of that areas. I would, therefore, request the Government that in the first attempt all the telecom towers which were installed in 2008 or thereafter should be made operational on priority basis. The Government should also initiate penal action against the officials who are unnecessarily delaying the functioning of these towers and causing heavy financial losses. The delay is also badly affecting the working of intelligence groups and other security agencies to check the activities of extremist groups.

I once again request the Government to first make already installed Telecom towers in Kandhamal District (Odisha) and other LWE areas functional thereafter Government should install new telecom towers in these areas.