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Title: Need to upgrade the capacity of mobile telecommunication equipment in Leh & Kargil districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI THUPSTAN CHHEWANG (LADAKH): Mobile equipment capacity in both Leh & Kargil districts has become saturated. Number of mobile connections are more than 1 lakh whereas capacity of mobile equipment is only 80,000 which has resulted in deterioration of mobile service in Ladakh region. To overcome this problem more mobile equipment such as MSC, BSC and BTS towers are required in the existing service area. Secondly, Leh-Srinagar telecom transmission line equipment capacity has also become saturated which has resulted in deterioration of mobile and broadband service. Transmission line equipment capacity is urgently required to be upgraded with higher capacity equipment such as DWDM. Thirdly, capacity of many mobile BTS towers has become saturated in Leh & Kargil town resulting in serious congestion problem. More towers are required in Leh & Kargil town to remove mobile traffic congestion problem. Fourthly, GPRS service in Ladakh region is very poor. GPRS service is required to be improved by enhancing GPRS capacity. Lastly, around 117 village hamlets are having no means of telecommunication at present. Since these 117 hamlets are not accessible through other telecom technologies such as landline, mobile, WLL etc. DSPT under USO fund may be provided. I request Hon'ble Minister of Tele-communications to have the matter looked into for early redressal.