

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Some of the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) have either proposed or are setting up medical colleges in mining areas.

(b) The details of such colleges are as follows:—

- (i) Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) is setting up from its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds a Medical college-cum-500 bedded hospital at Talcher in Angul district of Odisha at a cost of ₹ 492.62 crores;
- (ii) South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) has decided to construct a 500- bedded hospital and medical college at Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh at a cost of ₹ 327.40 crore on the land to be provided by Government of Chhattisgarh free of cost;
- (iii) Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) has proposed to establish a medical college near Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Psychiatry and Allied Sciences (RINPAS) for which the Government of Jharkhand has assured to provide 20 acres of land.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The employees are provided with medical benefits through dispensaries at unit level and at regional and central hospitals of subsidiary companies of CIL. The patients are also referred to the CIL empaneled super-speciality hospitals whenever required for free treatment.

Technology upgradation and expansion

1340. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom companies, including those owned by Government, are still far behind in technology upgradation and expansion for efficient mobile and internet network, at par with international standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategy Government has formulated to improve the efficiency of mobile and internet network in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Technology upgradation and expansion is a continuous process for telecom infrastructure. Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) progressively deploy new technologies at par with international standards. In order to

improve the mobile and internet services, TSPs make continuous efforts by increasing the number of mobile towers, Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and rolling out 4G networks in urban as well as rural areas. TSPs also deploy next generation technical solutions for better network experience to the customers.

(c) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalization of spectrum already granted, permitting passive and active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules-2016, making available Government land/buildings for installation of towers etc.

Additionally, TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service (QoS) standards through regulations to monitor the performance of Service Providers against the set benchmarks for improving the mobile and internet services.

Targets set and achieved under BharatNet

1341. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money disbursed under BharatNet, State-wise and year-wise, since 2014;

(b) the targets set and achieved, for providing internet-connection to Gram Panchayats, State-wise and year-wise, since 2014;

(c) the reasons for cases where envisaged target could not be achieved;

(d) the number of village panchayats, State-wise, where physical infrastructure for commercial broadband connection has been laid and those which have a running and functional commercial broadband connection;

(e) the details of speed of internet connection in each such village panchayat; and

(f) the details of average rate of data being used per connection in a day, in each such village panchayat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) ₹ 42068 crore has been approved by cabinet on 19.07.2017 for BharatNet Project. The funds are allocated/dispensed by USOF for the project as a whole and not State/UT-wise. Year-wise disbursement of funds under BharatNet project w.e.f. 2013-14 to 2017-18 and current financial year is as under:—