

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 716  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2022**

**LAUNCH OF 4G AND 5G NETWORK OF BSNL**

**716. SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) delaying the launch of its 4G network when all the major private telecom companies in the country are already providing 4G;
- (b) the details of the current status of the BSNL 4G network and the expected date of its launch;
- (c) whether BSNL has started working on the launch of 5G network; and
- (d) if so, the details of the expected date of its launch and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

**(a) & (b)** The Union Cabinet approved on 23.10.2019 administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services to BSNL & MTNL through capital infusion. In line with Atmanirbhar initiative of the government, BSNL was directed to deploy Indian Core for 4G on the recommendations of Empowered Technology Group (ETG). Accordingly, BSNL floated the Expression of Interest (EOI) on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan, 2021 for registration cum Proof of Concept (PoC) from Indian Companies interested in participating in BSNL's upcoming 4G tender. PoC has been provisionally completed.

**(c) & (d)** Government has inter-alia reserved the spectrum for BSNL for providing 5G services. The Atamnirbhar solution for 4G by BSNL is upgradable to support 5G Service within one year of launch of 4G service.

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