GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1937 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH AUGUST, 2024

MOBILE TOWERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

1937 SHRI YERRAM VENKATA SUBBA REDDY:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages in Andhra Pradesh that do not have mobile towers, district-wise and village-wise;
- (b) in what manner the Ministry looks at the direction given by the Prime Minister to set up mobile towers in all villages by March, 2024;
- (c) to what extent Gatishakti Sanchar is helping in addressing the issues such as nonavailability of land, remote locations, etc., in setting up of mobile towers; and
- (d) whether Ministry is on its course to comply with the directions given by the Prime Minister?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The district wise details of mobile connectivity in the villages of Andhra Pradesh are available on DoT website (www.dot.gov.in).
- (b) & (d) Government through funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is implementing various schemes, including 4G Saturation Scheme, for providing mobile network coverage in all uncovered villages in the country, including the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (c) The GatiShakti Sanchar portal was launched on 14.05.2022 to streamline and fasten Right of Way (RoW) approval for quick deployment of telecommunications infrastructure viz. laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) and erecting mobile towers. The portal acts as an enabler for Ease of doing business and has facilitated speedy infrastructure creation and timely rollout of telecommunications networks.

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