

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2625**  
**ANSWERED ON-04.01.2019**  
4G spectrum for BSNL

2625 Shri Binoy Viswam

- (a) whether Government has made allotment of 4G spectrum to BSNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the policies, financial assistance and timely expansion of service that Government had undertaken in the last four years to ensure the growth of State-owned telecom company, BSNL?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) was allotted 2x5MHz (paired) spectrum in the 2100 MHz and 20 MHz unpaired spectrum in 2500 MHz frequency band in 20 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) to deploy any technology including 4G services. BSNL also have spectrum allotment in 800 MHz, 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands on administrative basis. Such administratively allotted spectrum can be liberalised and used to deploy any technology including 4G services.

BSNL have recently applied for allotment of spectrum of 2x5 MHz (paired) in 2100 MHz band in 19 LSAs and for 2x5 MHz (paired) in the 800 MHz band in one LSA (Rajasthan) for deployment of 4G services.

(c) Department of Telecom (DoT) is utilising the strength and competence of BSNL to implement a number of important projects such as providing mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, implementation of comprehensive telecom development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth, Optical Fibre Cable based Network for Defence Services (NFS Project), execution of BharatNet Project, execution of comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam, implementation of transmission media plan for North Eastern Region, Submarine Optical Fibre Project for providing connectivity to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, setting up of 25000 Wi-Fi Hotspots at Rural Telephone Exchanges of BSNL and setting up of Satellite Gateway.

This improves the capacity utilisation of the organisation, enhances and diversifies the revenue generating avenues while at the same time facilitating the fulfilment of Government objectives.