

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2855  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**SATELLITE BASED SERVICES**

2855. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any licence is required for rendering satellite based services in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Elon Musk's Starlink has offered the Government to provide satellite based internet service in India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Starlink has applied for the requisite license from Department of Telecommunication (DoT) and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, whether Starlink is still approaching public for their services; and
- (g) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. For providing satellite based telecom services, Department of Telecommunication (DoT) grants the following authorizations under Unified License:

- i. Commercial Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) Closed User Group Service
- ii. Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) Service
- iii. INSAT Mobile Satellite System-Reporting (MSS-R) Service

Besides the above service licenses, Wireless Operating licenses are also required to be obtained for use of frequency, for rendering such services. Further, there is requirement of clearance from Department of Space (DoS) for use of a satellite.

(c) to (g) M/s Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited has applied for experimental/trial license in DoT. The company has also informed that it intends to apply for all the applicable licenses and authorizations required for commercial launch in India. DoT directed the company to refrain from booking of satellite based internet services before obtaining requisite license(s). Thereafter, the company has informed that they have stopped pre-selling/ booking of satellite based services in India.

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