

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 63
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2024**

POOR CONDITIONS OF MTNL

63 Shri Anil Desai:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total subscribers of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in all the four metropolis as on 1-1-2020 and total employees on that date;
- (b) the total number of employees who sought VRS and total number of subscribers on that date;
- (c) the number of employees on the rolls of MTNL and total number of subscriber availing MTNL connections;
- (d) the movable and immovable assets of MTNL and on what way the same are in use of MTNL; and
- (e) whether Government has paid any attention towards the reasons for this poor condition of MTNL, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) MTNL is providing telecom services in the Licensed Service Areas (LSA) of Delhi and Mumbai only. As on 1st January 2020, MTNL had 19,189 employees and 73.6 Lakh subscribers. 14,387 MTNL employees opted for VRS. MTNL has various movable and immovable assets at various locations of Delhi/NCR.

Government has taken various steps for revival of BSNL and MTNL.

- In 2019, first revival package amounting to Rs. 69 thousand Crore was given, that brought down the operating costs of BSNL/MTNL.
- In 2022, revival package amounting to around Rs. 1.64 Lakh Crore was given. It focused on infusing fresh capital, restructuring debt, viability gap funding for rural telephony etc.
- In 2023, Government approved the allotment of 4G/5G spectrum to BSNL with the total outlay of around Rs. 89 thousand Crore.

As a result of these packages, BSNL/MTNL have started earning operating profits since FY 2019-20.

BSNL/MTNL is rolling out indigenously developed 4G telecom stack. The equipment is upgradable to 5G.
