GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3403 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9^{TH} AUGUST, 2023

PROFIT/LOSS OF BSNL

3403. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the revenue, expenditure and profit/loss figures of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Year-wise since 2017;
- (b) the details of the subscriber base of BSNL, year-wise, since 2017;
- (c) whether the net profit margin of BSNL has shown any significant improvement after the approval of the revival package of Rs. 1.64 Lakh Cr. by the Cabinet on 27 July 2022, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to turn BSNL profitable by Financial Year 2026-27?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

(a) The details of profit/(loss) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) since Financial Year 2017-18 are given below:

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Financial			
Year (FY)	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure	Operating Profit
2017-18	25,071	33,064	-2,858
2018-19	19,321	34,225	-8,341
2019-20	18,907	34,406	-6,879
2020-21	18,595	26,036	1,177
2021-22	19,052	26,034	944
2022-23	20,699	27,361	1,559

(b) The subscriber base of BSNL as per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) reports, year-wise, since 2017:

Acon	BSNL	
As on	Wireless	Wireline
31.03.2017	10,09,89,553	1,36,88,964

31.03.2018	11,16,79,483	1,22,67,391
31.03.2019	11,56,64,576	1,11,67,679
31.03.2020	11,97,80,108	87,27,103
31.03.2021	11,85,29,647	66,49,439
31.03.2022	11,36,88,415	75,09,030
31.03.2023	10,35,80,534	71,05,823

(c) to (e) The loss of BSNL (before exceptional items of Rs.1499 Crores) for the Financial Year 2022-23 stands at Rs 6,662 crores, which is 4.5% improvement over FY 2021-22. Further, BSNL has been EBITDA positive since Financial Year 2020-21.

Further, in line with Atmanirbhar initiative of the Government, BSNL has issued Purchase orders for one-lakh sites to rollout services using 4G/5G technology developed indigenously.

Further, the Union Cabinet on 07.06.2023 approved the allotment of 4G/5G spectrum to BSNL with the total outlay of Rs 89,047 Cr through equity infusion.

With the implementation of above measures, BSNL is expected to turn-around with net profit in Financial Year 2026-27.
