

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1601
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

4G SERVICES BY BSNL AND MTNL

†1601. SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch 4G services in BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for delay in launching of 4G services in BSNL and MTNL; and
- (d) whether the Government has discriminated against the public sector telecom companies in order to promote their private counterpart?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (d) While BSNL has introduced 4G services in its network on limited scale at few places using its existing spectrum, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 23.10.2019 has approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) which inter-alia includes administrative allotment of spectrum to BSNL and MTNL for providing 4G services through capital infusion by the Government. To support BSNL and MTNL, the revival plan for BSNL/MTNL also includes measures to reduce the staff cost through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to the employees of age 50 years and above, monetisation of assets of BSNL and MTNL, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL
