

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2792
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH MARCH, 2020**

FINANCIAL DISTRESS IN TELECOM SECTOR

2792. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the telecom sector is in financial distress and the private telecom companies are under huge debt and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the financial distress in the telecom sector and prevent these companies from failing?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

(a) & (b) The Cellular Operators Association of India has sought intervention of the Government to avert such an unprecedented impact on the financial health of their member companies. The Government has offered a moratorium to the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to defer payment of the spectrum auction instalments dues for 2020-21 and 2021-22, either for one or both of years.
