GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 529 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

LOSSES INCURRED BY BSNL

529. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether BSNL has incurred losses consecutively during the last three years and has been declared as incipient sick as per the guidelines of Department of Public Enterprises (DPEs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government for the revival/ restructuring of BSNL;
- (c) whether BSNL is unable to make arrangement for payment of salary to its employees; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the large number of employees of BSNL?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

- (a) Yes Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has incurred losses consecutively during the last three years. BSNL was declared incipient sick in 2017 as per the guidelines of Department of Public Enterprises (DPEs).
- (b) Details of losses incurred by BSNL for the last three years are as under:

(in Rupees crore)

Financial year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Profit/(Loss) incurred by BSNL	(7,993)	(14,904)	(15,500)

The Government approved a revival plan for BSNL on 23.10.2019. The revival plan, interalia includes reduction in employee costs through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the employees of age 50 years and above, administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds and monetisation of assets to service debt, CAPEX and other requirements.

- (c) BSNL has informed that it has made salary payment up to the month of July 2020.
- (d) Turnaround of BSNL will ensure the welfare and future prospects of its employees.
