

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1590
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

MERGER OF BSNL AND MTNL

1590. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed merger of BSNL and MTNL is likely to help in improving the quality of their services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said companies would be able to provide 4G and 5G services; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The Government has approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) on 23.10.2019. The revival plan inter-alia includes administrative allotment of spectrum to BSNL/MTNL for providing 4G services with funding through budgetary allocation and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL.

As a step towards merger, to achieve synergy and to enable BSNL to have a pan-India footprint, the Government on 21.12.2020 has approved allotment of spectrum to BSNL for Delhi and Mumbai (MTNL areas) for 4G services.

BSNL has floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) on 01.01.2021 for prior registration/Proof of Concept (PoC) from Indian Companies interested in participating in BSNL's upcoming 4G tender.

BSNL has informed that it has not yet planned for launch of 5G services in its network.
