

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3452
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MARCH, 2021**

BAILING OUT TELECOM COMPANIES

†3452. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to bail out telecom companies which are under financial loss and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of days for which the companies have been exempted by the Government from paying Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR);
- (c) whether the Government will ensure compliance with the decision of the Supreme Court on AGR and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of BSNL officials who have availed Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) during the last year; and
- (e) whether the Government will allocate 5G spectrum to BSNL and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) At present there is no plan under consideration to bail out private Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) which are under financial loss. The Government has not granted any exemption to the Telecom Service Providers from paying Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) related dues. However, pursuant to the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Adjusted Gross Revenue case (Civil Appeal 6328-6399 of 2015) dated 24.10.2019; Department of Telecom (DoT) with the approval of Union Cabinet filed a Miscellaneous Application seeking the permission of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to allow Telecom Service Providers to make the payment of the AGR related dues in 20 years' time (or less if they so opt) duly protecting the Net Present Value. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has partially allowed the Miscellaneous Application permitting Telecom Service Providers to make the payment in 10 annual equal installments. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 01.09.2020 has also given several directions towards the implementation of the judgment. DoT as well as TSPs are bound by the orders and direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

- (d) Total 78,569 employees have opted for VRS in BSNL.
- (e) No such proposal is under consideration at present.
