

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2986
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021**

LOSSES OF BSNL & MTNL

†2986. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government telecom companies BSNL and MTNL have been continuously running into losses as compared to the private telecom companies which are making profit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the policy proposed by the Government to help these PSUs to overcome their losses;
- (d) whether BSNL and MTNL are likely to suffer more losses with the entry of a private TSP in the telecom sector;
- (e) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government is committed to further strengthen the Government telecom network throughout the country;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (h) The details of profit and loss of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) for the last five years are as follows:

Year	Net Profit/(loss) (in Rs Crore)	
	BSNL	MTNL
2016-17	(4793)	(2971)
2017-18	(7993)	(2971)
2018-19	(14904)	(3398)
2019-20	(15500)	(3811)
2020-21	(7441)	(2454)

The losses of BSNL/ MTNL are on account of reduction in revenue and increased competition leading to tariff reduction.

In order to strengthen BSNL and MTNL, the Government approved a revival plan for these PSUs on 23.10.2019. The revival plan inter-alia, includes measures to reduce the Staff cost through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for employees of age 50 years and above, administrative allotment of spectrum for providing 4G services with funding through budgetary allocation, monetisation of non-core and core assets to generate resources to retire debt, meet CAPEX and other requirements, debt restructuring by raising of Sovereign Guarantee Bonds and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL. These measures are expected to help BSNL turn around and remain competitive.
