

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2884  
ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT SCHEME (VRS) IN BSNL**

**†2884. SHRI IMRAN MASOOD:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment to ascertain the reasons for BSNL's inadequate revenue generation, if so, the outcome thereof;
- (b) whether it is considered appropriate to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to reduce the number of employees by 35 percent on the basis of the said assessment;
- (c) the special measures taken by the Government to save the VRS scheme of the BSNL from the failed initiatives taken by the MTNL in the past; and
- (d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to resolve the objections raised by the recognised employees' unions regarding VRS?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) to (d) The Government approved the first Revival package in 2019 to bring down the operating cost of BSNL by Debt restructuring through Sovereign Guarantee Bonds as well as VRS. After implementation of VRS in 2019, the employee cost of BSNL got reduced by 51 %. As a result of above, BSNL started earning operating profit from 2020-21.

The revenue of BSNL is impacted due to delay in roll out of 4G services as well as stiff competition in the mobile segment. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, BSNL has awarded Purchase Order for indigenously developed 4G sites. As on 30.06.2025, total 95,537 4G sites have been installed and 90,035 sites are ON-Air. The equipment is 5G upgradable from technology perspective.

At present, no proposal for VRS in BSNL is under consideration in the Department.

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