

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2903
ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2025**

INADEQUATE REVENUE GENERATION OF BSNL

†2903. SHRI LALJI VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken a detailed assessment of the key factors contributing to inadequate revenue generation of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and if so, the major findings thereof;
- (b) whether the above findings justify the decision to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the downsizing of 35 per cent employees in BSNL and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the concrete steps taken to prevent BSNL's VRS scheme from failing like previous failed VRS schemes of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL); and
- (d) the reaction of the Government to the objections raised by the recognised employees' unions regarding this scheme and the steps taken by the Government to effectively address them?

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 30.11.2025, total 97,401 4G sites have been installed and 94,458 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.
