

(b) whether it is also a fact that MTNL is not in a position to get its license for mobile service renewed due to acute shortage of funds; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be bailed out?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) No, Sir. Spectrum has been allotted to private companies as well as public sector undertakings BSNL and MTNL to provide mobile communication deploying any technology including 5G in spectrum allotted through auctions or market determined price on administrative basis.

However, BSNL and MTNL have requested for the allotment of additional spectrum in 800 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2100 MHz bands for providing 4G services in different service areas. The requests of BSNL and MTNL for allocation of this additional spectrum on administrative basis are under consideration in the department.

(b) and (c) The department has received a request from MTNL for amendment of the effective date of their existing Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) license as 11.01.2001, which will permit MTNL to provide their services up to 10.01.2021. The matter is under consideration in the department.

Reserve price of 5G spectrum

1425. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to auction 5G spectrum this year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what would be expected income out of this sale?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has given the recommendations for the auction of spectrum in the 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz bands on 01.08.2018 for providing access services using any technology including 5G. After considering these recommendations, Government is likely to take a decision on the conduct of the auction of the spectrum.

(b) Valuation of spectrum depends upon a large number of socio-economic and regulatory factors and is ultimately determined by the bidders in an auction. Hence it

is difficult to estimate the expected income from the spectrum auction. However, the reserve price of each band of the spectrum in each Licensed Service Area (LSA), put to auction, is considered by Government, among other things, on the basis of the recommendations of TRAI.

Revenue from enterprises division of BSNL

1426. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL has collected a record of ₹ 6,500 crore in revenue from enterprises division;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that BSNL has been ailing because of high revenue to wage ratio;

(d) whether it is also a fact that BSNL has the lowest debt of ₹14,000 crore among all telecom operators; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) Income of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) from Enterprise Business during FY 2018-19 is ₹ 2967.26 crore (unaudited and provisional).

(c) The salary to revenue ratio of BSNL for the last five years is as under:—

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*
Employee Benefits Expenses/ Salary (₹ in crore)	14963	15369	15715	14837	14488
Revenue (₹ in crore)	28645	32411	31533	25071	19308
Salary to Revenue ratio (%)	52	48	50	59	75

* provisional and unaudited.

(d) and (e) BSNL has informed that as on 31.03.2019, it has a debt of ₹ 16,788 crore, which is the lowest amongst the major telecom operators.