

Measures taken to improve BSNL networks

1615. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is fully responsible for BSNL networks across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the measures taken by Ministry to improve BSNL networks across country; and
- (d) what is the Total loss of BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Network Limited (BSNL) is a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the administrative control of Department of Telecommunications (DoT). However, BSNL is a Board driven company and takes decisions in the best interest of the organisation for providing telecom services including the network issues.

(c) Union Government approved the revival plan for BSNL on 23.10.2019. The revival plan *inter-alia* includes, administrative allotment of spectrum to BSNL for launching 4G services. With 4G services, BSNL will provide improved and high speed services to its subscribers throughout the country.

(d) BSNL has informed that its Total accumulated loss during the current Financial Year *i.e.* 2019-20 (upto 31.12.2019) is ₹ 39,089 crore.

Next-generation wireless technology

1616. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a policy decision to bring in the next-generation wireless technology by the year 2020, if so, the contours thereof;
- (b) how would 5G be different from 4G or any previous generation technologies in real terms and the details thereof; and

(c) whether 5G will emerge as the key catalyst to fuel the growth of digital economy in India, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) A High Level Forum for 5G India 2020 was constituted in September 2017 to articulate the Vision for 5G in India and to recommend policy initiatives and action plans to realize this vision. The High Level Forum submitted its report titled as "Making India 5G Ready" in August 2018. Based on the report, the Government is creating an enabling framework for deployment of affordable 5G services in India. The 5G services are expected to be introduced gradually and advance to a full range of services as ecosystem and demand for services grows.

(b) The previous generation technologies 2G networks primarily offered voice services but 3G and 4G technologies offered the networks providing internet-based services like video, email and social media. The difference between 5G technology and 4G Technology is as tabulated below:—

Key Capabilities	5G	4G
Peak Data Rate (Gbit/s)	20	1
User Experienced Data Rate (Mbit/s)	100	10
Spectrum Efficiency	3x	k
Latency (ms)	1	10
Connection Density (devices/km ²)	10 lakh	1 lakh

(c) 5G technology will emerge as the catalyst to fuel the growth of digital economy in India by enabling a rapid expansion of the role of information technology across manufacturing, educational, healthcare, agricultural, financial and social sectors etc.

Time bound upgradation in MTNL

1617. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to grant 1st Time Bound Upgradation under Executive Promotion Policy (EPP) for Grade 'B' equivalent absorbed MTNL officers, like BSNL officers (BSNL Notification No. 400-55/2016-Pers.-I, dated 23rd Oct., 2019); and