

Ftth/ fibre network system by BSNL and MTNL

1299. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is seriously considering to revive loss making BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to start Fibre To The Home (FTTH)/ Fibre network through MTNL/BSNL in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) on 23.10.2019. The revival plan inter-alia includes measures like reduction in employee cost through Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS), administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services to BSNL/MTNL through capital infusion by the Government, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds, monetization of assets of BSNL and MTNL to raise resources for retiring debt, C APEX and other operational requirements and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL.

(c) and (d) BSNL and MTNL have informed that they are already providing Fibre to the Home (FTTH) services in their respective Licensed Service Areas (LSAs).

Gender and Divyang issues in NEP

1300. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is confusion over NEP 2020 statement on gender and other related issues;
- (b) whether there is no mention in NEP, 2020 of Divyang community or socially backward classes, if so, the measures by which higher education will cater to the needs of these segments; and
- (c) whether the NEP 2020 envisions more privatization of higher education, if so, the details of the funding of affiliated colleges that will be asked to be autonomous?