

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 63  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024**

**POOR CONDITIONS OF MTNL**

**63 Shri Anil Desai:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the total subscribers of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in all the four metropolis as on 1-1-2020 and total employees on that date;
- (b) the total number of employees who sought VRS and total number of subscribers on that date;
- (c) the number of employees on the rolls of MTNL and total number of subscriber availing MTNL connections;
- (d) the movable and immovable assets of MTNL and on what way the same are in use of MTNL; and
- (e) whether Government has paid any attention towards the reasons for this poor condition of MTNL, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (e) MTNL is providing telecom services in the Licensed Service Areas (LSA) of Delhi and Mumbai only. As on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020, MTNL had 19,189 employees and 73.6 Lakh subscribers. 14,387 MTNL employees opted for VRS. MTNL has various movable and immovable assets at various locations of Delhi/NCR.

Government has taken various steps for revival of BSNL and MTNL.

- In 2019, first revival package amounting to Rs. 69 thousand Crore was given, that brought down the operating costs of BSNL/MTNL.
- In 2022, revival package amounting to around Rs. 1.64 Lakh Crore was given. It focused on infusing fresh capital, restructuring debt, viability gap funding for rural telephony etc.
- In 2023, Government approved the allotment of 4G/5G spectrum to BSNL with the total outlay of around Rs. 89 thousand Crore.

As a result of these packages, BSNL/MTNL have started earning operating profits since FY 2019-20.

BSNL/MTNL is rolling out indigenously developed 4G telecom stack. The equipment is upgradable to 5G.

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