GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1130 TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2024

INTEREST PAYMENT BY MTNL

1130 SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether MTNL has sought funds from Government to pay interests on debt obligations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for the State-owned telecom company MTNL making losses due to Government's policies and decisions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)

(a) to (c) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has sought Rs. 1,151.65 Crore to meet the payment of interest on Sovereign Guarantee Bonds (SGBs) for Financial Year 2024-25.

Government has in fact taken various steps for revival of MTNL and BSNL in 2019 and 2022.

- In 2019, first revival package amounting to around Rs. 69 Thousand Crore that brought down the operating costs.
- In 2022, revival package amounting to around Rs. 1.64 Lakh Crore was given for measures such as infusing fresh capital, restructuring debt and meeting viability gap.

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