

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3694  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2019  
VRS for BSNL and MTNL Employees

Anto Antony

- (a) whether the Government has announced Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for employees of BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any record regarding number of employees who applied for VRS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of amount required for settlement of VRS;
- (e) whether the VRS is a part of revival package for BSNL and MTNL; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:-

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) to (f) The Cabinet in the meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved a revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL). The revival plan, inter-alia, includes the measures to reduce the staff cost through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for employees of age 50 years and above. Accordingly, BSNL and MTNL introduced VRS with effect from 04.11.2019 which was open till 03.12.2019. BSNL and MTNL have informed that 78,569 employees of BSNL and 14,387 employees of MTNL have opted for VRS.

The Government has approved Rs.29,937 crore (Rs.17,169 crore on account of Ex-Gratia on VRS and Rs.12,768 crore due to preponement of pensionary benefits spread over a period of ten years) through budgetary allocation for VRS.

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