

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 272
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2020**

DISBURSEMENT TOWARDS VRS OF BSNL/ MTNL EMPLOYEES

***272. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether over 92,000 employees of State-run BSNL and MTNL have so far opted for the recently announced VRS scheme, the details thereof;
- (b) for how long the BSNL and MTNL employees, who have opted for VRS scheme, will have to wait to get their dues, details of the current status;
- (c) whether there is any delay in disbursement towards the programme in Financial Year 2020, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government has set aside provisioning of mere ` 528 crore in the current fiscal year for settlement towards the implementation of the VRS, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF RAJYA SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *272 FOR 19TH MARCH, 2020 ON “DISBURSEMENT TOWARDS VRS OF BSNL/ MTNL EMPLOYEES”.

(a) to (d) A total of 92,956 employees (78,569 employees of BSNL and 14,387 employees of MTNL) have opted for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS).

VRS retirees are entitled to payment of ex-gratia and pension. In addition, payment of their General Provident Fund (GPF) subscription, leave encashment and other dues is to be made on retirement after due verification. Government and PSUs have made concentrated efforts to make the payment to such large number of VRS retirees in time. The status of the payment is as below:

- Ex-gratia: As per the VRS scheme, ex-gratia is to be paid in two instalments. 1st instalment is to be paid by 31.03.2020 and the second instalment in first quarter of FY 2020-21.
- Pension: Pension payment was to commence from the month of February 2020. As on 17.03.2020, pension has been paid to 76,929 out of 77130 eligible VRS retirees of BSNL and 11233 out of 11494 eligible VRS retirees of MTNL.
- GPF, Leave Encashment and other dues: GPF final payment has been made to 77055 personel and remains to be made to only 75 eligible retirees of BSNL. BSNL has informed that leave encashment and other dues will be paid to the VRS retirees in the month of March 2020. MTNL has informed that all efforts are being made to clear the dues within a month.

The Government has allocated `5,527.71 crore in the second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2019-20 (March 2020), `5,000 crore is for payment of ex-gratia to the employees of BSNL and MTNL and `527.71 crore towards implementation of the VRS.
