(a) The Cabinet in its meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) which inter alia, includes measures to reduce employees costs through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS), administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds, monetisation of assets and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL.

(b) & (c) The revival plans have been prepared considering the recommendations of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad for BSNL and a private consultant for MTNL, which have been prepared by them after consultations with various Unions/Associations/employees. These revival plans were recommended by Boards of BSNL and MTNL.