

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4911
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
SPECTRUM TO CELLULAR PHONE INDUSTRY
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is serious congestion of cellular phone network particularly among major metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has noted this congestion and deterioration of cellular phone services in terms of quality;
- (c) the steps taken to award sufficient spectrum to the cellular phone industry to improve the quality of phone services; and
- (d) the details of the monitoring being done by the Government to assure periodic upgrade of such services and facilities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI T. SIKADAR)

- (a) Sir, some Cellular Operators in Delhi and Mumbai metro city Service Areas have reported to Department of Telecom (DoT) as well as to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), congestion of their networks and deterioration in quality of service due to paucity of frequency spectrum.
- (b)&(c) DoT have issued an Order on 1st February, 2002 for allocation of additional radio frequency spectrum to the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Providers. It has been decided to assign additional spectrum of 1.8 MHz (Megahertz) + 1.8 MHz beyond already permitted spectrum of 6.2 MHz + 6.2 MHz, on payment of additional charges and subject to other conditions, to the CMTS Operators in order to meet the requirement of growth of subscribers.
- (d) TRAI is entrusted with the task of monitoring the performance of CMTS Networks; this is done by TRAI through Quarterly Performance Monitoring and Quality of Service (QOS) Monitoring Reports.