

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4883  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008  
ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL SPECTRUM  
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has conveyed to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and the law makers separately that they have not allocated additional spectrum to any GSM operator and dismissed allegations that the operators were hoarding spectrum;
- (b) if so, whether it has also been pointed out that GSM operators have been maintaining that they were entitled upto a maximum of 15 MHZ and have deny excess of locations to any operator;
- (c) if so, whether the DoT also communicated to the CVC that policy announcements in March, 2006 and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI's) recommendations in August, 2007 both entitled GSM operators to get upto 15 MHZ of second generation per circle;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the additional spectrum was required to meet the growth; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (f) Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) had raised some queries on spectrum related issues and necessary information was provided to them. The initial spectrum is allotted to the mobile telecom services in accordance with the relevant provisions of Unified Access Service License (UASL), subject to availability of spectrum. With growth of service and increased subscriber base, additional spectrum is allotted subject to availability as per eligibility criteria, which is based on the no. of active subscribers, peak traffic of the operator's network, demographic features of the service area. The subscriber based eligibility criteria for allotment of additional spectrum to meet the growth requirements were revised in March 2006. Subsequently, during August 2007, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India ( TRAI ) recommended stiffer subscriber based eligibility criteria for allotment of additional spectrum taking into account the latest technology developments etc. The latest orders issued in January 2008 in this regard are based on TRAI recommendations. These orders of 2006 and 2008 provide criteria for GSM spectrum allotment upto 15 MHz.