

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1326  
ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008  
ALLOCATION OF SPECTRUM  
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

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

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Government for allocating spectrum to existing private Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) operators in the country; and

(b) the action plan formulated for allocation of additional spectrum to the said GSM operators?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The initial spectrum is allotted to the GSM operators in accordance with the relevant provisions of their Service License Agreement. With growth of service and increased subscriber base, additional spectrum is allotted, taking into account the subscriber based eligibility criteria, justification and subject to availability of spectrum in a telecom service area. The existing subscriber based criteria for allotment of additional spectrum has been issued on 17.01.2008, a copy of which is enclosed.

In continuation of the orders dated 09.01.2008 relating to subscriber base criteria for allotment of GSM spectrum, the following subscriber based criteria, in line with TRAI recommendations shall be followed, as an interim measure.

Service Subscriber base (In Lakh) supported by GSM spectrum in MHz.  
Area (eligibility for allotment of next step)  
2X4.4 2X6.2 2X4.4 2X7.2 2X8.2 2X9.2 2X10.2 2X11.2 2X13.2 2X14.2 2X15 @

Metro 5 15 18 21 26 32 40 48 57 65  
Service  
Areas

Telecom 8 30 41 53 68 82 90 98 107 116  
Circles  
as  
Service  
Area  
Category  
'A' & 'B'

Category 6 20 31 42 52 62 70 78 87 96  
'C' circles

@ Present upper limit for spectrum allotment.

# These are the figures of active subscribers (VLR) averaged over a month. In addition, peak traffic, averaged over a month should be 40 milli-Erlangs per active subscriber in the criteria.

# The spectrum allotment is subject to availability of spectrum.

# The active subscribers and peak traffic averaged over a month (for a minimum of 40m Erlangs per subscriber) in the Visitor Locator Register (VLR) would be taken into account for this purpose.

# The revenue share for spectrum charges, as per orders in this regard, would apply on the AGR for the complete service area.

# This comes into force with immediate effect.