

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3302
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 2G AND 3G
Bhagora Shri Tarachand

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

- (a) the difference between 2G and 3G technologies in terms of speed and data carrying capacity;
- (b) whether there is any general difference in the cost of 2G and 3G spectrums;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the price of 2G spectrum has been equated with 3G in any country of the world; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) 2G refers to second generation wireless telecommunication technology developed mainly for voice services and slow data services with data rates upto 9.6Kbps whereas, the 3G (3rd generation) mobile telecommunications is the generic name for the next generation of mobile networks that combines wireless mobile technology with high data rate transmission capabilities. The 3G network is capable of providing higher data rates upto 2 Mbps and supporting a variety of services such as high-resolution video and multi media services in addition to voice, fax and conventional data services.
- (b) & (c) Recently conducted auction of 3G spectrum has fetched Rs.3350.116 Crores per MHz, whereas there is no upfront cost of 2G spectrum as per the existing license conditions.
- (d) & (e) As on record no information is available where the price of 2G spectrum has been equated with 3G in any country of the world.