

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:291
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
EXCESS SPECTRUM
Nimmala Shri Kristappa

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

- (a) whether the Telecom Commission has approved charging of excess spectrum held by various operators from the date of allotment of such spectrum partially based on TRAI recommendation and partially based on the auction process;
- (b) if so, the details of such approval of the Telecom Commission with respect to charging of excess spectrum;
- (c) whether the Government has been allotting 2G spectrum till now without any additional one time charge either for the contracted amount of spectrum or for spectrum beyond the contracted amount;
- (d) if so, the estimated loss to the Government as a result of free allotment of spectrum beyond the contracted value; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government to recover the loss suffered as result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a)& (b): The Telecom Commission has given its recommendations on charging for spectrum including excess spectrum after considering the Recommendations of TRAI on "Spectrum Management and Licensing Framework' of 10th May, 2010 and further recommendations of TRAI dated 08th February, 2011". However no decision has been taken in this regard.

(c) to (e): No separate one time additional upfront charges are levied for allotment of either for the contracted or beyond the contracted amount of spectrum. However, annual spectrum usage charges on percentage of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue) are being levied. The initial/start-up spectrum is allotted to the Unified Access Service Licensees as per the provisions of their Service Licence Agreements subject to availability of spectrum. Additional spectrum beyond the above is also considered for allocation after ensuring optimal and efficient utilization of the already allotted spectrum, taking into account all types of traffic and subscribed criteria evolved from time to time.