GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3237 ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012 AUCTION OF G SPECTRUM Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) the details of spectrum available in the country and the manner in which the spectrum is being utilized;
- (b) whether any evaluation has been done of the spectrum available and its valuation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to auction 4G spectrum; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the procedure likely to be adopted for its auctioning?

Answer

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

- (a) The radio frequency spectrum is a natural resource and ranges from 9 KHz to 1000GHz, however its usable part is below 100 GHz due to availability of equipments and its applications. The spectrum below 100 GHz is used for various wireless services such as Broadcasting, Mobile (2G/3G/BWA etc.), Satellite, Point to Point, Terrestrial etc. This usable spectrum is assigned as per the channeling plan provisioned in National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP) 2011 and Radio Regulations of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) while ensuring Electro Magnetic Compatibility and co-existance of several services/technologies in any frequency band.
- (b) & (c) Yes Madam. The issues regarding allocation and pricing of Radio Spectrum for commercial telecom services are reviewed by the Government from time to time keeping in view of various Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendations and in consultation with Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) and Ministry of Finance.
- (d) & (e) The Government has issued guidelines for auction and allotment of spectrum for BWA (Broadband Wireless Access) services dated 1st August, 2008 and its amendments dated 11th September, 2008. Various bands such as 700 MHz, 2.3 GHz, 2.5 GHZ and 3.3-3.6 GHz have been identified for auction and allotment of spectrum for BWA services (e.g. 4G/LTE).

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued consultation paper on International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT)-Advanced Mobile Wireless Broadband Services and the TRAI recommendations in this regard are awaited. The Government will take decision after the receipt of TRAI recommendations.