GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4305
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
RECOVERY OF EXCESS SPECTRUM
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated excess spectrum held by the GSM operators beyond the contracted value operator-wise;
- (b) the actual left out period of these licences alongwith the cap on the contracted spectrum;
- (c) the method proposed to be adopted for calculation and recovery of excess spectrum; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to ensure level playing field between various operators as some of them are holding spectrum upto 10 MHz?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) Initial spectrum of 4.4/6.2 MHz is allotted in the Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (CMTS) Licensees/Unified Access Service (UAS) Licensees as per the provisions of service license agreement subject to availability. Additional spectrum beyond intial spectrum is also allotted as per guidelines/orders/criteria in force at the time of such allotment subject to availability.

However, TRAI made its Recommendations dated 23rd April 2012 on "Auction of Spectrum" and recommended that the limit for acquisition of spectrum shall be 50% of the spectrum assigned in each band in the respective service area and 25% of the total spectrum assigned in all bands put together in each service area. These recommendations are being examined by Government.