

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:333
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
SPECTRUM REF ARMING
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) the details of the spectrum allocated to various Government agencies;
- (b) whether the allocated spectrum to Government agencies are being utilised by them efficiently and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed spectrum airwaves allotted to various Government agencies and if so, the outcome thereof and the measures taken by the Government for effective utilization of spectrum by these agencies;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review spectrum refarming; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIKAPILSIBAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 333 FOR 20 MARCH, 2013 REGARDING 'SPECTRUM REFARMING'

(a) & (b) The spectrum is being allocated to various Government agencies for variety of applications such as Security, Public Safety, Law & Order etc in different frequency bands. Spectrum usage charges are being levied to Government agencies also with effect from 01-06-2004 thereon to ensure efficient utilisation. The spectrum usage charges depends, inter-alia, on quantum of spectrum, coverage etc. Spectrum usage charges has linkage in improving the efficiency of spectrum utilisation.

(c) to (e) An Empowered Group of Ministers (E-GOM) was constituted on 26 November, 2009 having terms of reference, among others, to recommend measures for vacation of adequate additional spectrum by the existing large users such as Defence, Space, Paramilitary, etc., in a time bound manner for the growth of mobile telephony and broadband sectors in the country, in the overall national interest, to suggest measures for early introduction of spectrum efficient digital terrestrial broadcasting for vacation of spectrum for other services in line with international practices.

The National Telecom Policy-2012 (NTP-2012) stipulates, among others, that to refarm and allot alternative bands or media to service providers from time to time to make spectrum available for introduction of new technologies for telecom applications. Refarming of spectrum is a continuous process to ensure availability of spectrum for introduction of new technologies and Government continues to take necessary steps from time to time.