

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2120  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013  
BANDWIDTH OF SPECTRUM  
Bhagora Shri Tarachand

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

- (a) whether the global association of companies, using the GSM standard to run mobile operations, has asked the Indian Government to make do with a total of 200 MHz of bandwidth spread over widely different ranges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to free up spectrum and decided to use the entire range between 700-900 MHz for telecom; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to be accrued as a result thereof ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) GSM Association in their communications has raised, among others, issues of refarming of 900 MHz band, spectrum pricing and allocation of entire 700 MHz band spectrum to mobile services.

The National Telecom Policy-2012 ( NTP-2012) envisages, among others, to make available additional 300 MHz spectrum for IMT services by the year 2017 and another 200 MHz by 2020.

(c) & (d) The frequency bands 806-824/ 851-869 MHz, 824-844/ 869-889MHz and 890-915/935-960MHz are available for Telecom. The frequency band 698-806MHz has also been earmarked for telecom, out of which 15 MHz has been identified for non commercial usage. The refarming of spectrum in this band is being carried out. This would ensure introduction of new technologies and would accrue revenue to the Government.