

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:249
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
AVAILABILITY OF 3G SPECTRUM
Sardinha Shri Francisco;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has noticed any disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the total number of telecom operators likely to be awarded 3G spectrum in each of the telecom service areas;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make 3G mobile services cost effective and provide more spectrum in each of the telecom service areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(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 THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 249 FOR 7TH DECEMBER, 2009 REGARDING "AVAILABILITY OF 3G SPECTRUM".

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. There is a disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles in the country. A mechanism is in process to augment the availability of 3G spectrum in all circles.

As per the decisions of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has decided to auction upto 4X5 MHz of paired 3G spectrum to serve four operators in the 2.1GHz band in the telecom service areas in addition to BSNL/MTNL, subject to the availability of spectrum.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. More spectrum for making 3G services cost effective in each of the telecom service area shall be provided subject to availability.