

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3910
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009
MERGERS AND ALLOCATION BY TRAI
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has floated a consultation paper to discuss spectrum allocation for 2G mobile services and issues related thereto, mergers and allocation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the response of the Government and mobile service providers thereto;
- (d) whether the MTNL and BSNL are in favour of open bidding rather than trading on the basis of first-come-first serve; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) to (e) Madam, on 16.10.2009, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Consultation Paper on "Overall Spectrum Management and review of license terms and conditions". The issues raised in the consultation paper for deliberation include spectrum requirement & availability, licensing issues, merger & acquisition issues, spectrum trading, spectrum sharing, perpetuity of licences, uniform licence fee, spectrum assignment, spectrum pricing and structure for spectrum management.

TRAI's recommendations to the Government on above issues, taking into consideration of the responses of all the stake holders including mobile service providers and BSNL/MTNL, is awaited. Government will take decision on the recommendations of TRAI keeping all aspects in mind. Being a policy matter, no time frame can be fixed for decision of Government in the matter.