**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS**
**DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA**
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.667**
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH FEBRUARY, 2019**

**IRREGULARITIES IN MICROWAVE ACCESS SPECTRUM ALLOCATION**

667. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)     whether irregularities in allocation of Rs. 69,381 crore Microwave Access spectrum have been found in a recent CAG report and if so, the details thereof;

(b)     the details of revenue earned by Government through auctions of spectrum conducted during the last six years, auction-wise, including targets fixed and the results achieved; and

(c)     the steps taken by Government to check irregularities in spectrum allocation?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &**
**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**
**(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a)     There are no irregularities in allocation of Microwave Access spectrum. However, Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) have observed that allotment of microwave carriers to the Telecom Service Providers (TSP) should be made equitably and through market related process. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has provided recommendations on methodology and pricing of microwave carriers, on which Government has to decide suitably. However, so far Microwave backhaul carriers have been allotted only through administrative process.

(b)  Auction revenue estimates for budgeting purpose, and actual revenue realization against the estimates are as follows:

| Year | Revenue Estimate (Rs. in cr.) | Achievement (Actual Receipts) (Rs. in cr.) * |
|---|---|---|
| 2011-12 | 13000 | Nil |
| 2012-13 | 40000 | 1722.24** |
| 2013-14 | 11343 | 18267.18 |
| 2014-15 | 14355 | 10791.08 |
| 2015-16 | 16000 | 21587.00 |
| 2016-17 | 34,586 | 32434.10 |

 * This includes receipts from deferred payments apart from the upfront auction amounts.

 ** set off of Rs. 3850 crores was also given.

(c) Spectrum is being allocated to different users strictly as per the approved policy and guidelines of the Government. There is no irregularity, whatsoever, in allocation of spectrum.

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