

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1821
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH AUGUST, 2023**

BALANCE OF PAYMENT BY PRIVATE TELECOM PLAYERS

1821 SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the balance of payments to be made by the private telecom players to Government, telecom company-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has advised the telecom players to pay the balance of payments in installments to reduce their working capital burden;
- (c) if so, whether the telecom players are paying the agreed installments on time, the details of the payments made;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the issue relating to this financial crisis, accounts for Government's failure in not preventing the monopoly of private companies?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) License Fee (LF) and Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) are payable by the licensees on the basis of the finalized Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR). The details of License Fee (LF) and Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) dues assessed so far, of the major private Telecom Access Service Providers (TSP's), company-wise is enclosed in **Annexure-I**.

With respect to the spectrum auction, payments are deferred in annual installments, i.e after an upfront payment, the balance bid amount is payable in annual installments. The details of annual installment due towards the spectrum auctions are enclosed in **Annexure-II**.

(b) As per Hon'ble Supreme Court Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) judgment dated 01.09.2020, Telecom Service Providers (TSP's) are required to make the payments in 10 yearly installments commencing from 01.04.2021 up to 31.03.2031, for the LF and SUC dues mentioned in the Supreme Court judgement. In order to address the financial stress in the sector, government has given an option of moratorium of four years on LF and SUC dues assessed up to Financial Year 2018-19. The option to defer the payment of spectrum auction installment dues (excluding the installments due for the spectrum auction of 2021 and 2022) upto the four years is also given.

(c) & (d) The first payment of LF and SUC dues arising out of the Hon'ble SC decision have been made in FY 2019-20. The balance payments have been given a moratorium upto FY 2024-2025. The installments outside the moratorium for spectrum auction of 2021 and 2022 are being paid regularly.

(e) Government has taken multiple steps to ensure that the telecom sector remains strong. At present there are four major telecom service providers and more than three thousand licenses providing services to users.

ANNEXURE-I

LF and SUC dues upto FY 2021-22

(Amount in Rs Cr.)

LF and SUC Dues of Major Private Telecom Access Service Providers			
S. No.	Name of the company	LF and SUC Dues*	Remarks
1	Bharti Group	40973.11	TSPs opted for Moratorium Scheme
2	Tata Group	16394.89	
3	Vodafone Idea Limited	76133.56	
4	Quadrant Televentures Limited	236.78	
5	Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited	1117.66	TSP not opted for Moratorium Scheme
6	Aircel Group	22387.43	These TSPs are under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)/liquidation related proceedings.
7	Reliance Communications	38600.51	
8	Reliance Telecom Limited	4446.52	
9	Sistema Shyam Teleservices Ltd.	1184.71	
10	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	2550.50	
11	Loop Telecom Pvt. Ltd	1535.82	
12	Etisalat DB Telecom Private Limited	133.49	
13	S Tel Pvt Limited	171.85	
Total		205866.85	

*Dues are subject to revision on the basis of representations by TSPs, departmental assessments, CAG/Special Audits, Court Cases etc. These dues are with interest as on 31.03.2023.

ANNEXURE-II

Future Deferred annual installments of past Spectrum Auctions:

(Amount in Rs. in crores)					
FY	Vodafone Idea	RelianceJio	Bharti Airtel	Adani	Total
**2023-24	1,843.49	12,487.21	1,588.57	18.95	15,938.22
2024-25	1,843.49	12,487.21	1,588.57	18.95	15,938.22
2025-26	12,645.64	12,487.21	1,588.57	18.95	26,740.37
2026-27	26,590.07	12,487.21	8,906.53	18.95	48,002.75
2027-28	26,590.07	12,487.21	8,906.53	18.95	48,002.75
2028-29	26,590.07	12,487.21	15,693.53	18.95	54,789.75
2029-30	26,590.07	12,487.21	15,693.53	18.95	54,789.75
2030-31	26,590.07	12,487.21	15,693.53	18.95	54,789.75
2031-32	26,241.02	12,487.21	15,229.31	18.95	53,976.48
2032-33	20,106.90	12,487.21	15,229.31	18.95	47,842.36
2033-34	19,971.43	12,487.21	15,229.31	18.95	47,706.89
2034-35	6,162.47	12,487.21	8,210.49	18.95	26,879.11
2035-36	1,843.49	12,487.21	5,982.24	18.95	20,331.88
2036-37	1,843.49	12,487.21	5,982.24	18.95	20,331.88
2037-38	1,843.49	12,487.21	5,982.24	18.95	20,331.88
2038-39	1,843.49	12,487.21	5,982.24	18.95	20,331.88
2039-40	1,679.99	7,864.79	4,525.81	18.95	14,089.53
2040-41	1,679.99	7,864.79	4,525.81	18.95	14,089.53
2041-42	1,679.99	7,864.79	4,525.81	18.95	14,089.53
Total	2,34,178.71	2,23,389.69	1,61,064.15	359.98	6,18,992.53

****Note:** Due date for FY 2023-24 instalments is 17th Aug, 2023

Deferred spectrum instalments of TSPs under CIRP			
(Amount in Rs. in crores)			
FY	RCL	Aircel	Total
2018-19	302.98	320.99	623.97
2019-20	801.91	320.99	1122.90
2020-21	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2021-22	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2022-23	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2023-24	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2024-25	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2025-26	801.91	331.52	1133.43
2026-27	780.38	307.39	1087.77
2027-28	780.38	307.39	1087.77
2028-29	780.38	10.52	790.90
2029-30	774.25	-	774.25
2030-31	774.25	-	774.25
2031-32	492.80	-	492.80
2032-33	492.80	-	492.80
2033-34	492.80	-	492.80
Total	11284.37	3256.39	14540.76

Above companies are under Insolvency proceedings since 2018.
