

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2266
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH MARCH, 2026**

ALLOCATION/AUCTION OF SATELLITE SPECTRUM

2266 SHRI SAKET GOKHALE:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific legal provisions under which satellite spectrum is being administratively allocated instead of auctioned;
- (b) the pricing methodology finalized for satellite spectrum and whether TRAI's recommendations have been accepted;
- (c) the safeguards to ensure a level playing field between satellite broadband operators and terrestrial telecom companies; and
- (d) the estimated or notional revenue foregone by choosing administrative allocation over auction?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) The Telecommunications Act, 2023 provides for assignment of spectrum through administrative process for certain services, including satellite-based services, listed in First Schedule of the Act. Spectrum for all satellite-based services has always been assigned through administrative process, even prior to The Telecommunications Act, 2023.
- (b) & (c) The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) had sought recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on terms and conditions of spectrum assignment including spectrum pricing in respect of licensees intending to provide satellite-based communication services while accounting for level playing field with terrestrial access services. In response, TRAI has provided its recommendations to DoT. TRAI recommendations are under examination in the DoT.
- (d) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.
