

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2100
ANSWERED ON 06th AUGUST, 2026**

DIRECT SPECTRUM ALLOCATION FOR SATELLITE BASED INTERNET

2100 DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to directly allocate spectrum for satellite-based internet broadband services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government intends to provide subsidy for satellite based broadband services from Digital Bharat Nidhi; and
- (d) whether similar spectrum-access terms and subsidy mechanisms would be uniformly extended to all conventional communication operators including BSNL?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) The Telecommunications Act, 2023 provides for assignment of spectrum through administrative process for certain services listed in First Schedule of the Act, which includes satellite-based internet broadband services. Spectrum for all satellite-based services has always been assigned through administrative process, even prior to The Telecommunications Act, 2023. Satellite spectrum is obtained through global coordination process managed by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). Spectrum for satellite-based internet broadband services is highly shareable. Therefore, administrative assignment is the preferred mode of assignment for these services and it is in line with the international best practices.

(c) and (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has provided recommendations on terms and conditions of spectrum assignment including spectrum pricing in respect of all the licensees intending to provide satellite-based communication services. However, no scheme or plan for subsidy for satellite-based broadband services from Digital Bharat Nidhi exists as on date.
