

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1602  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**

**MACHINE-TO-MACHINE COMMUNICATION**

1602. DR. GOKARAJU GANGA RAJU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched Machine-to-Machine (M2M) communication services;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has created additional licensed spectrum for the said services to meet the projected influx of connected devices due to M2M communication;
- (c) whether the basic telecom services licences are being allowed to provide M2M connectivity within the area of their existing authorisations and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has any proposal on machine-to-machine communications that includes a new kind of permit for companies keen on providing services for this new form of technology and has suggested to the Department of Telecom(DoT) that all existing operators should be allowed to provide connectivity for machine-to-machine services and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has identified critical services in the M2M for the services to be mandated to be provided only by connectivity providers using licensed spectrum and whether the companies offering M2M services using unlicensed spectrum like the one used for Wi-Fi are allowed to be covered under licence through a new permit to be called Unified Licence (M2M) and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Machine to Machine (M2M) communication services in the country is provided by various stakeholders of M2M ecosystem. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) only facilitates in creating M2M ecosystem framework with appropriate policy and regulatory aspects related to M2M communications. No additional licensed spectrum is separately earmarked at present for M2M communication services.

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(c) to (e) Recently, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its recommendations on Spectrum, Roaming and QoS related requirements in Machine-to-Machine (M2M) Communications to DoT. TRAI in its recommendations has inter-alia, recommended that:

(i) All Basic Services licensees and Internet Service Provider (ISP) licensees shall be allowed to provide M2M connectivity, including on unlicensed band, within the area of their existing authorizations, barring M2M cellular services. DoT may suitably amend the license conditions under Basic Service Operators (BSOs) and respective ISP categories.

(ii) All access service providers' viz. CMTS, UASL, UL (AS) and UL holders using licensed access spectrum shall be allowed to provide M2M connectivity within the area of their existing authorizations. DoT may suitably amend the license conditions in respective licenses.

(iii) Connectivity provider using Low Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) technologies operating in unlicensed spectrum should be covered under licensing through a new authorization under UL namely UL (M2M). Such licensees should be allowed to bid for licensed spectrum to provide exclusively M2M services, if they desire to provide M2M services in the licensed band.

(iv) Government, through DoT, should identify critical services in M2M sector and these services should be mandated to be provided only by connectivity providers using licensed spectrum.

At present, Government has not identified critical services in M2M sector.

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