

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1908
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7th MARCH, 2018**

SPECTRUM AUCTION

1908. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has kick started the process for the next round of spectrum auction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the TRAI has issued a consultation paper on key issues for the sale of airwaves including those of 5G; and
- (d) whether in the last auction, 2355 megahertz of spectrum worth Rs. 5.6 lakh crore across seven bands was put up for auction and fetched the Government revenues of Rs. 65,789 crore only and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has sent a reference to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 19.04.2017 seeking recommendations on the Reserve Price for auction of right to use spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz bands. TRAI has issued a Consultation Paper on 28.08.2017 on "Auction of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz bands". TRAI is presently in the process of consultation and the recommendations would be finalized on completion of the same.

(d) In the last auction held in October-2016, a total of 2354.76 MHz spectrum across seven bands i.e 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands, with a total reserve price of Rs. 5.67 lakh crore was put-up for auction. The Government received revenue for a total bid value of Rs. 65,789 Crore against a total of 964.8 MHz of spectrum sold. Expensive ecosystem in 700 MHz band, industry perception of high reserve price and high debt levels of many major telecom companies may be the reasons for less revenue realisation in the auction.
