

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2369
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH DECEMBER, 2018**

NATIONAL FREQUENCY ALLOCATION PLAN

2369. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has unveiled the National Frequency Allocation Plan 2018 (NFAP) recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has finalised National Digital Communication Policy 2018 (NDCP-2018) and if so, the details thereof including its objectives and the key features;
- (c) whether the Government aims to provide universal broadband connectivity at 50 Mbps to every citizen by 2020 and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to establish a comprehensive data protection for digital communications that safeguards the privacy, autonomy and choice of individuals ?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes Madam. The Government has unveiled National Frequency Allocation Plan 2018 which contains the allocation of radio spectrum for radio communication services and provision for Short Range devices and Ultra-Wideband devices. It is published on DoT website <http://www.dot.gov.in/whatsnew/national-frequency-allocation-plan-2018>

(b) & (c) The National Digital Communications Policy 2018 has been notified in the Gazette of India vide number 2-14/2018-Policy –I.(Pt-I) dated the 22nd October, 2018 with a vision to support India's transition to a digitally empowered economy and society by fulfilling the information and communications needs of citizens and enterprises by establishment of a ubiquitous, resilient and affordable Digital Communications Infrastructure and Services.

The key objectives of the policy are provisioning of Broadband for all; creating 4 Million additional jobs in the Digital Communications sector; enhancing the contribution of the Digital Communications sector to 8% of India's GDP from approximately 6% in 2017; propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT Development Index of ITU from 134 in 2017; enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains; and ensuring Digital Sovereignty. These objectives are to be achieved by 2022.

The policy, inter-alia, aims to provide universal broadband connectivity at 50Mbps to every citizen; provide 1 Gbps connectivity to all Gram Panchayats of India by 2020 and 10 Gbps by 2022; ensure connectivity to all uncovered areas; attract investments of USD 100 Billion in the Digital Communications Sector; train 1 Million manpower for building New Age Skill; expand IoT ecosystem to 5 Billion connected devices; establish a comprehensive data protection regime for digital communications that safeguards the privacy, autonomy and choice of individuals and facilitates India's effective participation in the global digital economy; and enforce accountability through appropriate institutional mechanisms to assure citizens of safe and secure digital communications infrastructure and services.

(d) Unified license conditions of DOT mandates for the Licensee to take necessary steps to ensure that the Licensee and any person(s) acting on its behalf observe confidentiality of customer information. It also mandates the licensee to ensure protection of privacy of communication and ensure that unauthorized interception of messages does not take place.
