

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3455
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND JANUARY, 2019**

SPECTRUM AVAILABILITY

3455. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the present spectrum availability in various bands to telecom operators in the country is sufficient in view of huge increase in the number of mobile users and some operators offering unlimited internet usage and calling;
- (b) if not, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (c) the details of telecom operators who have requested for expansion of spectrum availability and the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Spectrum in various frequency bands, identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), has been made available for allotment to telecom operators to meet their existing as well as future spectrum requirements. Accordingly, spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands has already been made available for allotment to Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in various service areas. In the last spectrum auction conducted in October 2016, a total of 2354.75 MHz of spectrum in these bands was put to auction of which 964.8 MHz of spectrum was sold.

Recommendations from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) have been received for auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 and 3400-3600 MHz bands and are under consideration in the Department. Details of total spectrum available for TSPs in various service areas are at **Annexure**.

Further, the Government has also made provisions for spectrum sharing, spectrum trading and merger & acquisitions among telecom service providers as per the guidelines issued by the Government, for promoting more efficient use of spectrum.

(c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have requested for allotment of spectrum for providing 4G services. These requests of BSNL and MTNL are under consideration in the Department.

Spectrum availability for telecom operators in various service areas

Sl. No.	Service Area	Spectrum available for telecom operators in various frequency bands (in MHz)									
		700 MHz	800 MHz	900 MHz	1800 MHz	2100 MHz	2300 MHz	2500 MHz	3300-3400 MHz	3400-3600 MHz	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
2	Assam	70.0	25.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	726.0
3	Bihar	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
4	Delhi	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
5	Gujarat	70.0	35.0	40.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	730.0
6	Haryana	70.0	35.0	37.2	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	726.8
7	Himachal Pradesh	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
8	Jammu and Kashmir	70.0	25.0	37.2	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	716.8
9	Karnataka	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
10	Kerala	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
11	Kolkata	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
12	Madhya Pradesh	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
13	Maharashtra	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
14	Mumbai	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
15	North East	70.0	25.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	726.0
16	Orissa	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
17	Punjab	70.0	35.0	43.6	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	733.2
18	Rajasthan	70.0	35.0	37.2	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	726.8
19	Tamilnadu	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
20	Uttar Pradesh (East)	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
21	Uttar Pradesh (West)	70.0	35.0	37.2	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	726.8
22	West Bengal	70.0	35.0	46.4	109.6	80.0	80.0	40.0	100.0	175.0	736.0
Total		1540.0	740.0	975.2	2411.2	1760.0	1760.0	880.0	2200.0	3850.0	16116.4
