

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4059
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH JULY, 2019**

SPECTRUM AUCTION AND PUBLIC WI-FI

**4059. MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of spectrum auction held during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to roll out five lakh public Wi-Fi hotspot on priority basis and if so, the details and the benefits thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government is planning to set up one lakh digital villages in coordination with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, LAW & JUSTICE AND
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) One spectrum auction was conducted during the last three years, in October 2016, in which a quantum of 2354.75 MHz of spectrum was put to auction and a quantum of 964.80 MHz of spectrum was sold. The total bid amount for the spectrum auction was Rs.65789.12 crores.
- (b) Cellular Operators Association of India, Internet Service Providers Association of India and Virtual Network Operators Association of India have jointly submitted a proposal for seamless and interoperable internet and broadband services through public Wi-Fi hotspots. As a part of the proposal, they have submitted a roadmap for achieving 5 lakh Wi-Fi hotspots within six months and 1 Million Wi-Fi hotspots within a period of one year.
- (c) No such plan is presently under consideration in this Ministry. However the Ministry of Electronics and IT is implementing a Digital Village Pilot Project covering 700 Gram Panchayats (GPs)/villages with at least 1 Gram Panchayat or village per District per State/UT with an implementation period of 3 years and total budget outlay of Rs.98.32 crores.
