GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 652 TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST DECEMBER, 2021

REVENUE LOSS DUE TO RESELLING OF SPECTRUM

652. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study about the revenue loss that may incur to the Government due to the permission given to the Telecom companies to resell among themselves the spectrum allotted to one company to the other Telecom companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the Government has any plan to conduct such study; and
- (d) whether the Government has any mechanism to prevent creation of cartel by such Telecom companies in the original Government auction and also in the subsequent resale of allotted spectrum among the Telecom Companies and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)

- (a) to (c) After considering the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the Government has issued Guidelines for Trading of Access Spectrum by Access Service Providers on 12.10.2015, and clarifications thereto on 12.05.2016. These guidelines contain provisions to protect the interest of the Government with respect to the dues.
- (d) There are detailed rules which provide that more than one licensee controlled by a single entity, shall not be allowed to bid in the auction. Further, according to the Guidelines for Trading of Access Spectrum, a Telecom Service Provider (TSP) is allowed to trade the spectrum only after two years from the date of the acquisition.
