

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2889
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2022**

BASE RATE OF 5G SPECTRUM

2889. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the telecom companies have pointed out that the base rates recommended by TRAI for 5G spectrum sale are unreasonable and demanded that the prices be reduced and if so, the reasons and the details thereof;
- (b) whether the telecom companies have to engage with foreign companies for 5G technology as Indian companies have not been able to fulfill all requirements and if so, the reasons and the details thereof including security precautions; and
- (c) whether the telecom operators had been given extension on their 5G trial permits which has led to a delay in transition to 5G networks and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

- (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), after carrying out consultation with all stakeholders, including Telecom companies, has recommended the reserve prices of spectrum in the various frequency bands. The Government has decided the final reserve price based on these recommendations of TRAI.
- (b) Engagement of Indian telecom companies with foreign vendors depends upon their technical needs and business decisions. Next-generation technology development has linkages with previous generation technologies and it is also interplay of diverse systems. Hence, there would be a few dependencies as technology ownership is globally spread. Indigenous companies have demonstrated capabilities with significant indigenization and domestic value addition in 4G and 5G technologies. As the products are being developed using 3GPP and ITU standards, security needs are inherently taken care of. Further to this, trusted source directives are being followed to take care of the security aspects that may arise due to the supply chain.
- (c) No Sir. The 5G trial licenses of telecom operators have been given extension uniformly up to 06-08-2022 or till the date of assignment of the spectrum for commercial use post auction, whichever is earlier. No delay is attributable to the extension of dates for continuation of 5G trials by the telecom operators. Consequent to the acquiring of this spectrum through auctions, the 5G networks will be deployed by the Telecom operators as per their business decisions and following applicable roll out obligations.
