

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3040  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025**

**SPACE-BASED INTERNET SERVICES**

**3040. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which the Union Government plans to regulate space-based internet services to ensure compliance with national laws, promote fair competition and address issues related to spectrum allocation;
- (b) the manner in which the Government will ensure transparency, fairness and optimal use of spectrum in satellite-based services when allocation is done administratively rather than through an auction;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to regulate and facilitate the operation of space-based internet services in the country particularly in light of the growing demand for high-speed connectivity in remote areas; and
- (d) the mechanisms put in place by the Government to monitor and regulate the security protocols of space based internet providers to prevent misuse or security breaches?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) to (d) Department of Telecommunications grants authorizations under the Unified License (UL) for providing Satellite-based commercial communication services. As per the Unified Licensing framework, the applicant must be an Indian company registered under the Indian Companies Act-2013. The grant of license to provide Satellite-based Internet Service to an applicant is subject to compliance with the applicable licensing terms and conditions, including security conditions and relevant national laws. The security conditions include, inter alia, facility to monitor all telecom traffic, establishment of satellite earth station gateway(s) in India, all traffic originating or terminating in India shall pass through the satellite earth station gateway(s) located in India, creation of buffer zone along the international border. In case of violation of the license conditions, the licensor may take suitable action including suspension, revocation, or termination of the license; imposition of financial penalty on the licensee, etc.

Further, an Authorization from Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) is also required for any foreign or Indian satellite system/constellation to provide its space capacity over India.

The Telecommunications Act, 2023 provides for assignment of spectrum through administrative process for satellite-based services, listed in First Schedule of the Act. Further, in line with The Telecommunication Act 2023, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on 11.07.2024 has sought the Recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on terms and conditions of spectrum assignment, including spectrum pricing, in respect of licensees

intending to provide satellite-based communication services while accounting for level playing field with terrestrial access services.

For ease-of-doing business, DoT's Satellite Communication Reforms-2022 have simplified the regulatory procedures and reduced financial charges on the licensees. The recent Space Sector reforms enable larger participation of non-government entities for building/leasing, owning and operating the satellite systems for providing satellite-based services. Many operators have applied for authorization for providing satellite communication over India.

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