

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4231
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH MARCH, 2025**

CHALLENGES IN SPECTRUM AUCTION 2024

4231. SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has examined the factors behind the subdued response to the 2024 spectrum auction where a significant portion of the offered spectrum remained unsold;
- (b) if so, the details of the analysis and the primary challenges identified in attracting higher participation from telecom service providers;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the pricing, reserve bidding mechanisms or spectrum allocation policies to address industry concerns and enhance auction outcomes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the findings of such a review and any policy adjustments being considered; and
- (e) the specific steps being planned to optimize spectrum allocation and ensure that future auctions generate greater interest and revenue for the telecom sector?

ANSWER

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

(a) &(b) Spectrum auction 2024 was held in the background of a highly successful spectrum auction of 2022 where TSPs had bid for Spectrum amounting to Rs 1.5 Lakh Crores. Spectrum Auction 2024 was primarily conducted to maintain continuity of services by giving opportunity to TSPs to replenish the Spectrum which was expiring in 2024 and to incrementally augment the existing mobile services. All the available spectrum in 800 MHz, 900MHz, 1800MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300 MHz and 26GHz spectrum bands spread across 22 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) was put to auction.

(c), (d) &(e) The reserve price along with other terms & conditions for spectrum auction are recommended by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). After consultation with stakeholders, TRAI employs different econometric models and considers other relevant factors to recommend Reserve Prices of different bands in different LSAs. Accordingly, these recommended reserve prices are finalised by the Government before conduct of every spectrum auction.
