GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026

DE-LICENSED HALF SPECTRUM

1981. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that the Government has de-licensed half the spectrum in the 6 gigahertz band for Wi-Fi and if so, the details thereof;

(b)   whether it is also true that the telecom firms have been demanding that it should be auctioned for use in future mobile telephony and if so, the details thereof; and

(c)   whether it is also true that the Government has considered the requests of tech firm while disagreeing with the requests of telecom firms and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a)   Government has decided to delicense lower portion of the 6 GHz band (5925–6425 MHz) for use by Wireless Access Systems including Radio Local Area Network (Wi-Fi). The gazette notification No. GSR 47(E) has been published on 20th January 2026 in this regard.

(b)   Government has received requests from telecom firms for using the same lower 6 GHz band for licensed International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) services. However, as per the Radio Regulations of International Telecommunications Union (ITU-RR), this frequency band is not identified for IMT. On the other hand, ITU-RR has identified 6425-7025 MHz for IMT services in some countries.

(c)   The entire 6 GHz band (5925-7025 MHz) was sought by both telecom firms and tech firms. However, recognizing that both International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) and Wi-Fi are important for the digital growth of the country, and after considering factors such as international best practices and the need for equitable access to spectrum, the Government has decided to delicense 5925–6425 MHz band for Wi-Fi and to allocate 6425–7025 MHz band for IMT use.

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