GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1253
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
AUCTION OF 3-G MOBILE SPECTRUM
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the auction criteria for the Third Generation (3-G) Mobile spectrum;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which auction process is likely to commence;
- (d) the reaction of the Ministry of Defence in vacating more of its spectrum for this purpose;
- (e) whether the Government has decided to increase the basic reserve price from the previously proposed price for the auction of 3-G mobile spectrum; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c), (e) & (f) Several issues including amount of spectrum to be auctioned, fixing of reserve price, annual spectrum charges etc. for 3G spectrum and its allocation, are under consideration of the Government. As such time frame for auction process to commence can not be specified.
- (d) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Ministry of Defence & Ministry of Communications & IT. As per the MOU, Ministry of Defence will release spectrum for 2G and 3G services in steps from the date of signing of MOU till the completion of an exclusive, dedicated OFC network for Armed Forces.