

Allocation of 2G spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications has been tabled in the Parliament on 16.11.2010. Necessary action will be taken after due examination of the Report.

2G and 3G spectrum controversies

937. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has solved the controversies of 2G and 3G spectrum deals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) Start-up/initial 2G spectrum has been allotted to the Unified Access Service License (UASL) holders as per the conditions/provisions of UASL, subject to availability. Additional spectrum beyond initial spectrum is allotted as per guidelines/orders/criteria in force at the time of such allotment subject to availability.

3G spectrum has been auctioned during April-May of 2010 through e-auctions and allotted for commercial operation from 1st September 2010.

Certain allegations of irregularities in the award of UAS Licenses for 2G spectrum to private companies in the year 2008 are being looked into by the investigating agencies.

Refund of spectrum fee

938. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that some of the Telecom Companies who bid for 2G spectrum licence have been facing financial difficulties and wish to wind up their affairs in the country;
- (b) whether the Department of Telecom has been approached by any of them to surrender their licences; and
- (c) whether Government is thinking of refunding the spectrum fee or would it allow these companies to freely trade their spectrum with other telecom companies?