

dated 27th January 2016, it has been stated that" In the consultation paper, no specific question was raised on the timing of the auction of 700 MHz band. However, in their comments to the Consultation Paper, some stakeholders have requested the Authority to recommend that the auction of the spectrum in this band be held only after development of a strong device ecosystem. A few stakeholders have submitted that the existing spectrum is still in process of being fully utilized; Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are planning roll-outs in recently acquired spectrum. Therefore, as per these stakeholders, auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, would clearly divert CAPEX from its already planned roll-outs".

Free internet facility to consumers

†1032. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is mulling over providing free internet facility to the consumers;
- (b) if so, by when and the names of places selected for the purpose; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has provided Wi-Fi services at over 300 locations with 867 hotspots in 60 cities. BSNL would be providing free Wi-Fi services for first 15 minutes once in a month per user. The zone-wise details of Wi-Fi Hotspots as on 18.02.2016 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of BSNL status of Wi-Fi hotspots zone wise as on: 18.02.2016 (300 locations in 60 cities)

Zone	Name of Circle	Total Achievement
North Zone	Uttar Pradesh East	7
	Uttarakhand	21
	Rajasthan	25

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Zone	Name of Circle	Total Achievement
	Jammu and Kashmir	4
	SUB TOTAL	57
South Zone	Kerala	78
	Andhra Pradesh	300
	Karnataka	230
	Tamil Nadu	44
	Chennai Telecom District	4
	UP (West)	6
	Uttar Pradesh (E)	13
	Odisha	13
	SUB TOTAL	688
West Zone	Gujarat	7
	Maharashtra	52
	Chhattisgarh	12
	Madhya Pradesh	51
	SUB TOTAL	122
	GRAND TOTAL	867

Compensation for call drop

†1033. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has made amendments in telecom rules under which telecom companies would have to pay compensation to the consumers in case of a 'call drop', if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.