

(d) As per the Central Bureau of Investigation's findings, based on the growth in Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) per MHz per year in respect of entry fee for new Unified Access Service Licenses (UASLs) and fee paid by dual technology users, an additional amount totaling to ₹ 30,884.55 crores could have accrued to the Government Exchequer if the allocation of licenses/spectrum were done as per due process.

700 MHz Spectrum

3419. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 700 MHz spectrum went unsold through auction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether BSNL has not yet rolled out its 4G services and has sought for provision of a block in the 700 MHz band to start 4G services; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No bid was received in any of the 22 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) in 700 MHz. Expensive ecosystem in 700 MHz band together with industry perception of high reserve price appears to be the main reason for no bids in the 700 MHz band. In addition, companies appeared to be preserving cash to protect market share in the days to come.

(c) and (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has not yet rolled out 4G services and requested for reserving a 5 MHz slot for BSNL in 700 MHz band. Entire available spectrum in 700 MHz band for telecom services was put to auction in the spectrum auction held in October, 2016. BSNL did not participate in the auction.

Deployment of public Wi-Fi

3420. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether TRAI is exploring for wide deployment of public Wi-Fi in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the action taken/being taken by Government and TRAI in this regard, the details of locations/cities identified where Wi-Fi hotspots have already been set up and being set up, location/city-wise?