

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) As per the reports furnished by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the total number of Wireless Subscribers for the last three years as on March-2017, March-2018, March-2019 and 30th September-2019 is given below:-

Period ending	Number of Wireless Subscribers
31st March-2017	1,170,178,305
31st March-2018	1,183,408,611
31st March-2019	1,161,811,569
30th September-2019	1,173,747,973

(c) and (d) TRAI has set various parameters and benchmarks to monitor Quality of Service (QoS). These parameters are assessed for entire license service area on quarterly basis. Based on the comparison between the performance of network parameters of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) for the quarter ending June 2019 and September 2019, TRAI has reported that there is a very small percentage of total networks where benchmarks are not being met.

To improve the Quality of Service, drive test and Radio Frequency (RF) optimization activities are carried out regularly by TSPs. Efforts are also taken on continuous basis to keep on improving network experience and optimally managing the increasing traffic by way of adding more number of sites, providing fiber backhaul, use of small cells, deployment of next generation technical solutions and network optimization, in order to deliver the best quality of service to the subscribers.

Allocation of 6,000 mhz spectrum for 5G services

2731. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of 6000 MHz spectrum for 5G services would enhance mobile data speed in India by up to 50 per cent compared with the current level;

(b) whether Government is taking strong initiative to make spectrum available for new service;

(c) whether it is a fact that as much as 2354.55 MHz of frequencies valued to about ₹5.63 lakh crore were put for grabs in country's largest ever auction held in 2016;

(d) whether mobile phone signals in the country are transmitted in 8000 MHz to 2600 MHz band at present; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendations on auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz and 3300-3600 MHz bands for providing mobile services deploying any technology, including 5G, is under consideration.

(c) In the last auction held in October 2016, a total of 2354.75 MHz spectrum across seven bands *i.e* 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands and spread over 22 LSAs, with a total reserve price of ₹ 5.67 lakh crore, was put-up for auction.

(d) and (e) At present spectrum in the frequency bands 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands have been allotted to Telecom Service Providers for providing Telecom Services.

Review of telecom regulator's recommendations

2732. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has realized that comprehensive review on issues like spectrum auctions, reserve prices to give relief to telecoms, sale of all spectrums, benefits of 5G to social sectors, etc. is essential;

(b) if so, what action Government proposes to take;

(c) whether the minimum price bracket suggested by TRAI for auction of 5G services is unrealistic and very high in comparison to other countries and many private players are not likely to participate in the auction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action Government proposes to take in larger interest?