

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 86/2018)

For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases recommendations on “Auction of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz Bands”

New Delhi, 1st August, 2018– The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released recommendations on **“Auction of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz Bands”**.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) vide its letter No. dated 19th April, 2017 requested TRAI to provide applicable reserve price, quantum of spectrum to be auctioned and associated conditions for auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz Bands for all the LSAs under the terms of clause 11 (1) (a) of TRAI Act, 1997 (as amended).

2. TRAI, vide its letter dated 15th May 2017 sought additional information/clarifications on some of the issues from DoT. However, to speed up the process, based on the available information, TRAI issued the Consultation Paper (CP) on 28th August 2017 seeking comments of stakeholders. An Open House Discussion (OHD) was conducted on 18th January 2018 at New Delhi. Subsequent to the issue of CP, DoT provided additional/updated information vide its letters dated 7th September 2017 and 23rd July 2018, as sought by TRAI.

3. Based on the comments/inputs received from the stakeholders and further analysis, the Authority has finalized its recommendations on “Auction



of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz and 3400-3600 MHz Bands". The salient features of the recommendations are given below:


- Entire available spectrum should be put to auction in the forthcoming auction.
- Barring the specific locations or districts where ISRO is using the 25 MHz (3400 MHz - 3425 MHz) of spectrum, the entire spectrum from 3300 MHz to 3600 MHz should be made available for access services and should be included in the forthcoming auction.
- 3300-3600 MHz should be auctioned as a single band and TDD based frequency arrangement should be adopted for this band.
- Spectrum in 3300-3600 MHz band should be put to auction in the block size of 20 MHz. To avoid monopolization of this band, there should be limit of 100 MHz per bidder. Since the TSPs are allowed to trade their partial or complete spectrum holding to another TSP, the limit of 100 MHz spectrum in 3300-3600 MHz band, shall also apply for spectrum trading. In case a TSP acquires more than one block, the entire spectrum should be assigned to it in contiguous form.
- No roll out obligations should be mandated for spectrum in 3300-3600 MHz band. However, to avoid any misuse of not mandating any roll-out obligations, the lock-in period for spectrum in this band for becoming eligible for spectrum trading should be 5 years instead of 2 years.
- The revised provisions of spectrum cap (i.e. 35% Overall cap and a Cap of 50% on the combined spectrum holding in the sub-1 GHz bands) should be extended to 3300-3600 MHz band also. Additionally, in 3300-3600 MHz band, there should be a spectrum holding cap of 100 MHz per licensee
- There is an urgent need of audit for all allocated spectrum both commercial as well as spectrum allocated to various PSUs/ Government organizations. This should be done by an independent agency on a regular basis.



- Recommended reserve price for various spectrum bands is as per table given below:

RECOMMENDED RESERVE PRICE (In Rs. Crore)								
LSA	700 MHz	800 MHz	900 MHz	1800 MHz	2100 MHz	2300 MHz	2500 MHz	3300-3600 MHz
	Per MHz (Paired)				Per MHz (Unpaired)			
Delhi	915	640	NA	457	635	164	164	69
Mumbai	1122	727	NA	561	528	167	167	84
Kolkata	347	160	NA	173	115	38	38	26
Andhra Pradesh	557	390	NA	279	185	78	78	42
Gujarat	546	385	373	273	181	70	45	41
Karnataka	219	192	238	109	91	112	98	16
Maharashtra	729	510	NA	365	391	72	66	55
Tamil Nadu	199	174	235	100	394	151	132	15
Haryana	113	57	102	57	63	8	NA	8
Kerala	190	157	NA	95	203	20	NA	14
Madhya Pradesh	190	143	NA	95	68	9	NA	14
Punjab	177	157	NA	88	104	21	24	13
Rajasthan	211	266	NA	105	NA	6	NA	16
U. P. (East)	305	251	262	153	126	9	NA	23
U.P. (West)	230	161	211	115	76	12	NA	17
West Bengal	105	74	NA	53	35	6	NA	8
Assam	92	NA	NA	46	30	2	NA	7
Bihar	175	136	201	88	99	7	7	13
Himachal Pradesh	37	24	NA	18	12	1	1	3
Jammu & Kashmir	30	NA	NA	15	13	1	1	2
North East	25	NA	NA	13	6	1	NA	2
Orissa	54	47	NA	27	44	5	NA	4

4. The recommendations have been placed on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in. For clarification/ information, if any, Shri S. T. Abbas, Advisor (Network Spectrum & Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone Number +91-11-23210481.


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