5G Spectrum & Regulatory Policies

Parag Kar

### Outline

### • 5G Spectrum Availability

Harmonizing Bands

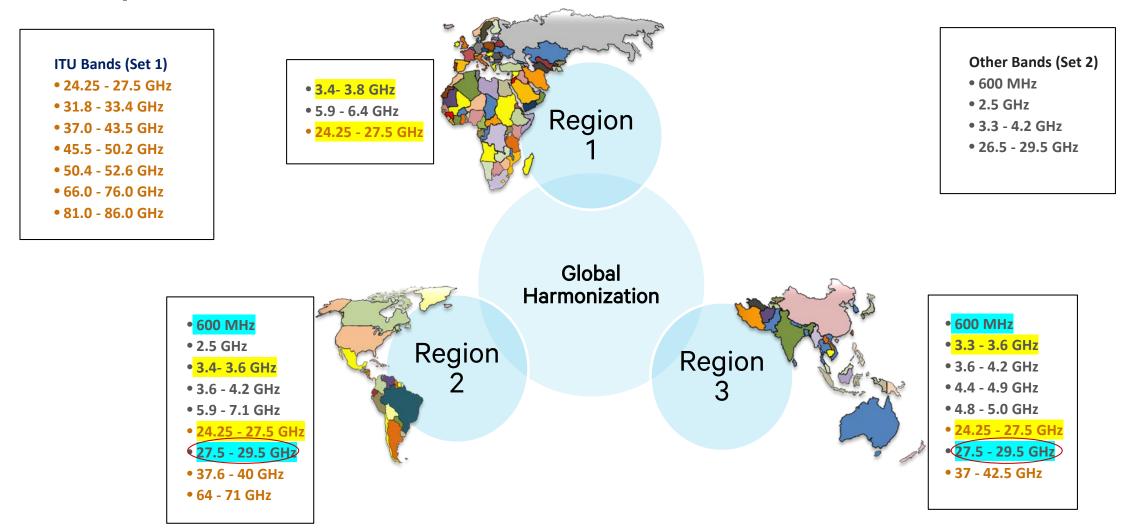
### • 5G Spectrum Management

- Minimizing Interference
- Maximizing Usage

### • 5G Spectrum Affordability

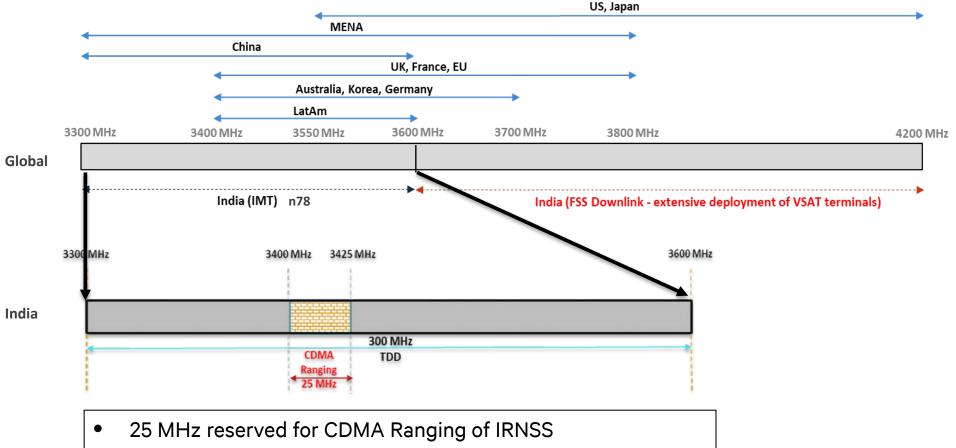
- Optimizing Price
- Minimizing Distortions

### 5G Spectrum : Harmonization



5G Bands Harmonized Globally Are Key for India

## 5G Spectrum : 3.5 GHz

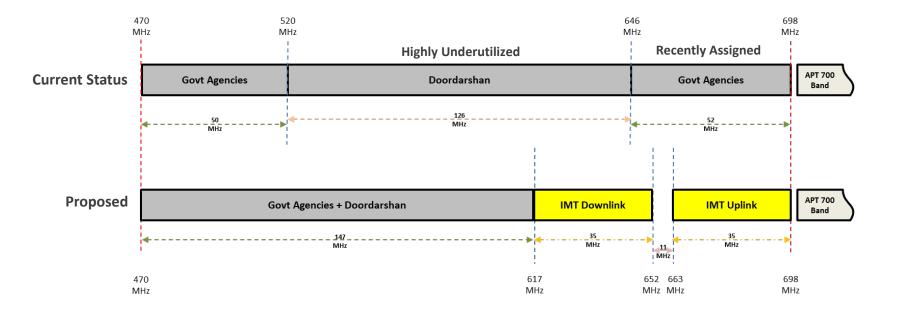


Global Status : 3.5 GHz						
Region 1						
۶	UK	- Identified				
۶	France	- Identified				
۶	Italy	- Identified				
۶	Germany	- Identified				
۶	EU	- Identified				
۶	MENA	- Identified				
Region 2						
۶	US	- Identified				
	LatAm	- Identified				
Region 3						
۶	China	- Identified				
۶	Japan	- Identified				
۶	Korea	- Being Auctioned				
$\triangleright$	Australia	- Identified				

- Max 17 CDMA Ranging locations ٠
- Exclusion zones to manage interference ۲
- Entire 300 MHz to be used in all other geographies ۲

### Total 300 MHz can be Enabled for 5G Services

## 5G Spectrum : 600 MHz



Global Status : 60	0 MHz
Region1 ≻ Nil	
Region 2	
≻ US	- Auctioned
≻ Canada	- Being Auctioned
Region 3	
≻ NZL	- Being Auctioned

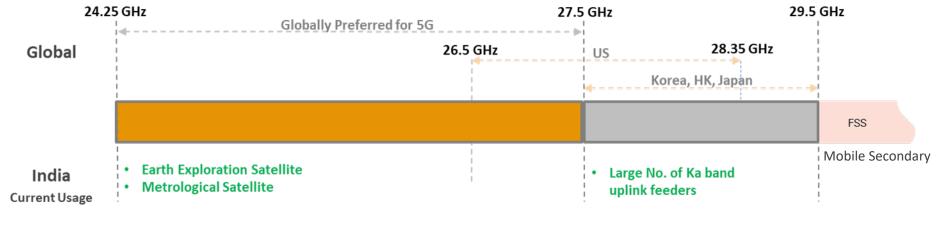
#### Note : 600 MHz band identification in next WRC cycle

#### **Actions Needed**

- Adjust Doordarshan and Other Government Agencies within 470-617 MHz
  - Doordarshan can optimize spectrum through digitization
- Adopt Band 71 (n71) plan between 617-698 MHz for 5G
  - FDD (Reverse Duplex) to prevent interference with 700 MHz band

### Total 2x35 MHz can be Enabled for 5 GHz Services

## 5G Spectrum : Millimeter Waves



#### 24.25 - 27.5 GHz

- 5G and EESS can Co-Exist
  - DoS is not seeking any protection for EESS

### 27.5 - 29.5 GHz

- 5G and Ka Band Uplink can Co-Exist
  - 5G Services will not interfere with uplink stations

Global Status: Millimeter Waves Region 1 > UK - Identified > France - Identified - Identified Sweden > Italy - Identified > Germany - Identified > EU - Identified > MENA - Identified Region 2 > US - Identified Canada - Identified > Brazil - Identified - Identified > LatAm Region 3 China - Identified - Identified > Japan > Korea - Being Auctioned

> Australia

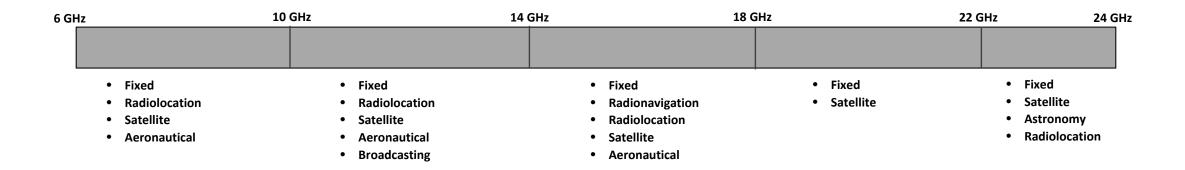
≻ HK

- Identified

- Identified

### Immediate Studies Need to be done to Ensure Coexistence

## 6 to 24 GHz : Why It Has Been Left Out?



- Primarily identified for fixed/radars/aeronautical and satellite services
- Extensively used in India for satellite services and backhaul links

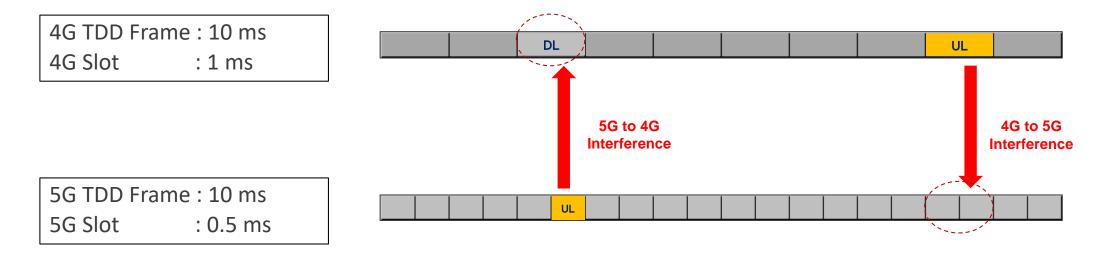
### 6 to 24 GHz Has Not Been Identified by ITU for Deploying 5G Services

## 5G Spectrum : Management Issues

- FDD assignment for lower spectrum bands
  - Will ensure interference free operations
  - Will maximize spectrum usage efficiency
  - Will enable Circle level assignment
- TDD assignment only for higher frequency bands
  - Avoid multiple technology deployment in same band
    - Else will need guard bands for prevent interference
  - Assign spectrum in larger blocks
    - Else will fragment spectrum and reduce efficiency
  - Avoid Circlewise Assignment
    - Else will cause Cross Border Interference

Spectrum Assignment Reforms Must for Successful 5G Implementation

# 5G TDD : Why Avoid Deploying 4G Adjacent to 5G?

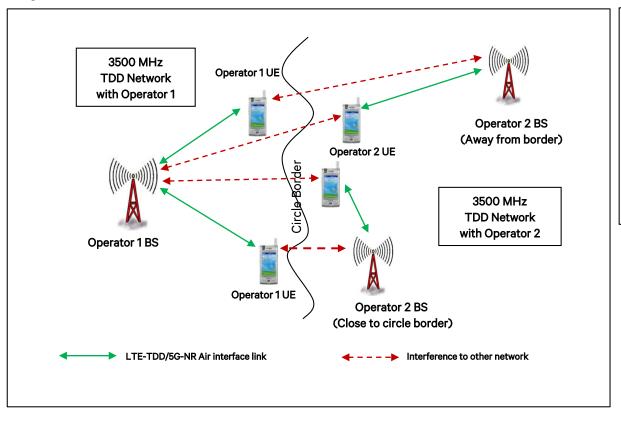


- Coexistence of 4G and 5G will cause interference
  - Timing Sync does not help
  - DL & UL Slots always overlap
- Coexistence of 5G carriers can be managed
  - Timing Synchronization
  - Same DL-UL Config Index

### Guard Band is Must Between Two Adjacent Blocks of 4G & 5G

# 5G TDD : Why RF Signals Interfere Across Borders?

# Same TDD spectrum slot allocated to different operators across circles

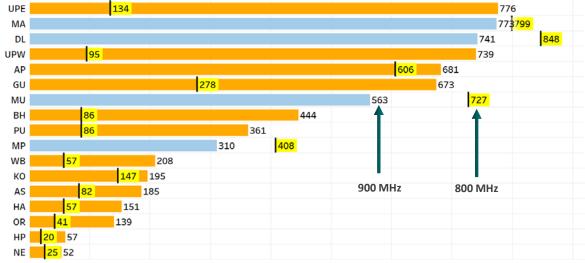


- Managing interference is difficult
  - Down tilting antenna will mitigate interference for operator 2 at the cost of coverage of operator 1
  - Handovers across borders between operator 1 and 2 will be difficult to manage
  - Severe near-far effect issues at borders
  - Unusual distant propagation from elevated Base Stations
  - Severe in band interference near circle borders

5G Spectrum in 3.5 GHz Band Should be Assigned Nation Wide

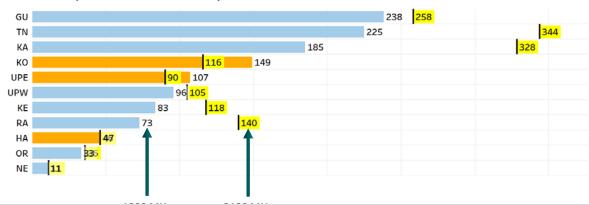
## Auction : Past Experience

#### Price are in Rs Cr/MHz

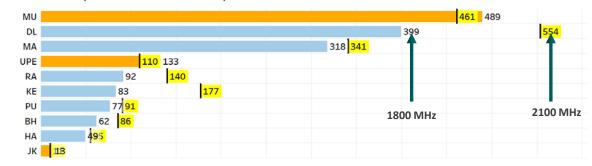


#### 900 vs 800 (Auction Year - 2014 & 2015)

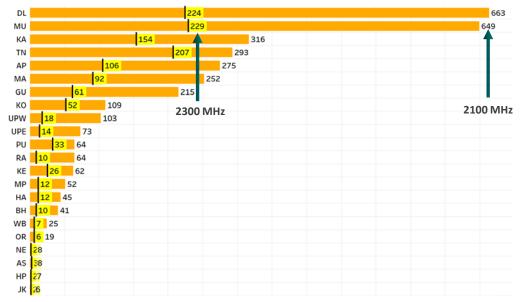
#### 1800 vs 2100 (Auction Year - 2015)



#### 1800 vs 2100 (Auction Year - 2016)



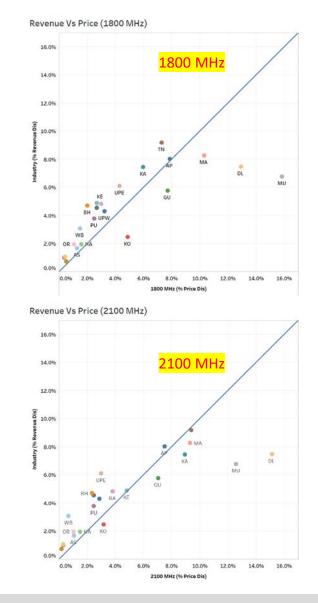
#### 2100 vs 2300 (Auction Year - 2010)



### Similar Bands Priced Dissimilarly

## Auction : Past Experience





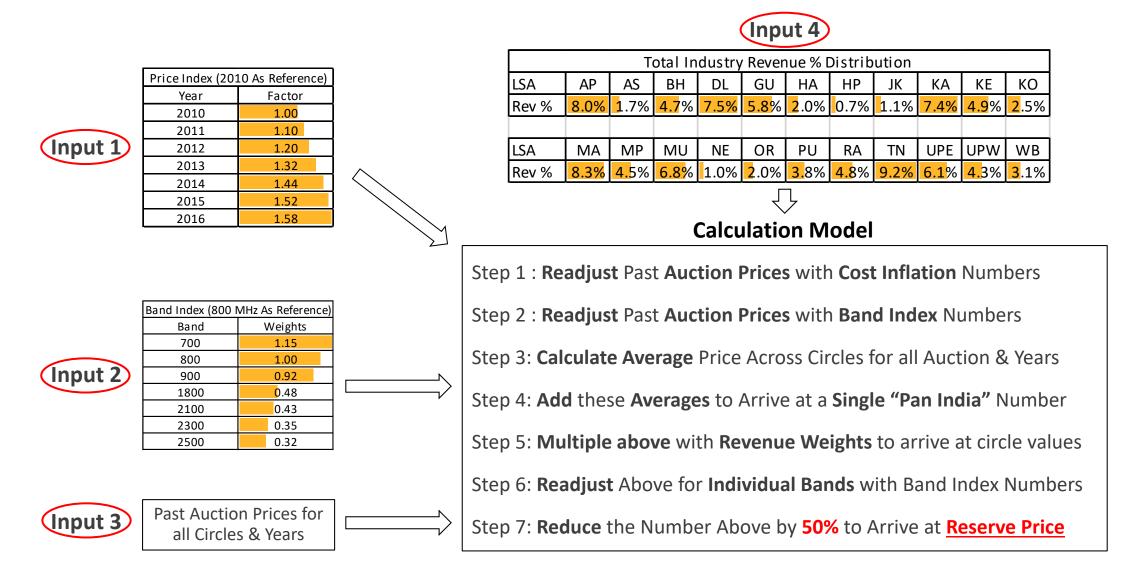
Similar Circles Price Dissimilarly

## New Pricing Model : Basic Principle

- Input to the pricing model should be unambiguous
  - Ambiguous input is hard to quantify administratively
  - Unambiguous inputs will make the process robust
  - Unambiguous inputs will remove element of discretion
- Input to the pricing model should act as feedback
  - Feedback will prevent distortions percolating in future auctions
  - Feedback will promote responsible bidding
- Input to the pricing model should be integrative
  - Integrative model will prevent distortion across bands
  - Integrative model will prevent distortion across circles

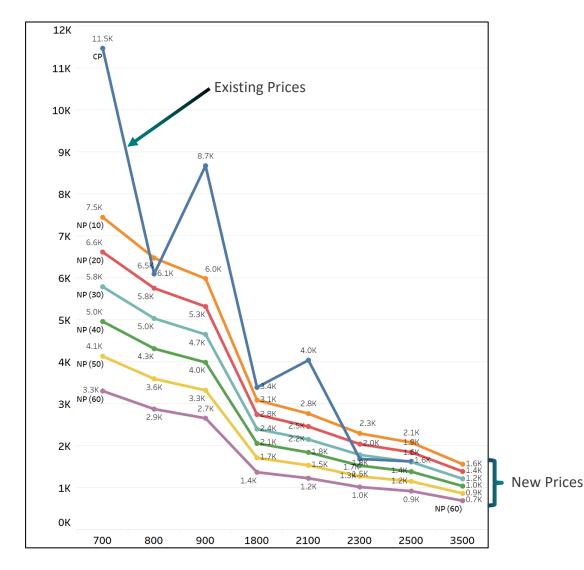
In Nutshell, the model should promote transparency, consistency and predictability

## The Model : Calculating Reserve Price



Prices will get automatically curated for distortions

### **Reserve Prices : Calculated With New Model**



New Reserve Price vs Old Price (50% Discount)						
Band	AP/RP (Rs Cr)	New RP (Rs Cr)	% Change	Туре		
700 MHz	11485	4141	-64%	Decrease		
800 MHz	6104	3603	-41%	Decrease		
900 MHz	8683	3329	-62%	Decrease		
1800 MHz	3400	1719	-49%	Decrease		
2100 MHz	4047	1541	-62%	Decrease		
2300 MHz	1693	1279	-24%	Decrease		
2500 MHz	1634	1158	-29%	Decrease		
3500 MHz		871				

#### The New Model Will

- Prevent <u>bidding distortion</u> percolating into future auctions
- Prevent <u>irresponsible bidding</u> by penalizing speculative actions
- Prevent <u>volatility</u> in auction prices and make it more predictable
- Prevent moral hazard resulting out of drastic corrections in prices
- Prevent <u>undue competitive advantage</u> to a few players
- Prevent randomness of auction prices across bands and circles
- Prevent accusation by audit agencies on bureaucratic actions

Prices will get automatically curated across bands

## Summary

- 5G Spectrum Availability
  - Align Spectrum Globally
  - Refarm Spectrum
  - Do Co-existence Studies
- 5G Spectrum Management
  - FDD Assignments : < 1 GHz
  - TDD Assignments : Higher Frequency Bands
  - Min Block Size : 50 MHz (TDD)
  - Mixed Band usages : Avoid in TDD
  - Assign on Pan-India Basis : Must in TDD
- 5G Spectrum Affordability
  - Unambiguous Pricing Model

# Thank You