

## ***Now it is 3G scam***

As has been rightly pointed out, "big business is the fountain head of corruption in high places in India". The New Liberal Economic Policies have enabled the big business to garner huge profits. Thus, they bribe the Ministers and bureaucrats to carry on their corrupt activities.

In the 2G scam, the country witnessed as to how the spectrum, a scarce resource of the country, was looted by the big business, in connivance with the ministers and bureaucrats.

Now, the country has come to know that in the 3G spectrum auctioning also, a very big scam has taken place. Of course, again the looting is done by three big business houses, viz. Airtel, Vodafone and Idea.

In the 3G spectrum auctioning that has taken place in 2010, these three companies have entered in to a collusion. The collusion is that they did not bid for all the circles. However, they made the bidding in such a way that any one of these three companies has got the license in each circle. Out of the 22 circles, Airtel got the license in 13 circles, Vodafone in 9 circles and Idea in 9 circles.

These three companies now give 3G services in all the 22 circles, by using each others network. They give 3G services even in those circles for which they do not have license. This is nothing but clear cut violation.

As a result of the collusion between Airtel, Vodafone and Idea, what is the loss to the country. It is as follows. In the 2010 3G auctioning, the total license fee for all the 22 circles came to Rs.16,750 crore. However, Airtel has paid only Rs.12,295 crore, Vodafone paid Rs.11,617 crore and Idea Rs.5,254 crore. Still all these three companies give 3G service in all the 22 circles. Thus, the loss to the country comes to Rs.20,000 crore.

Despite this looting is brought to the notice of the government, no action has been taken on the culprits. Whether the government will book them or protect them?

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