

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2432
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th AUGUST, 2018

TASK FORCE TO FINALISE POLICY ON E-COMMERCE

2432. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set up a Task Force to finalise the contours of the policy on the fast growing e-commerce sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the decision to set up a Task Force was taken during the first meeting of the think tank on framework for National Policy on e-commerce; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): In the back drop of discussions on e-Commerce in WTO & MC-11 in Buenos Aires, the Department of Commerce initiated an exercise and established a Think Tank on “Framework for National Policy on E-commerce” and a Task Force under it and has deliberated on the challenges confronting India in the arena of the electronic commerce (e-commerce). Some of the issues that were discussed by the think tank included aspects of e-commerce like physical and digital infrastructure, the regulatory regime, taxation policy, data flows, server location, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), technology flows, skill development and trade-related aspects.

The first meeting of the Think Tank was held on 24.04.2018; meeting of the subgroups was held during 20th - 22nd June, 2018 and the first meeting of the Task Force was held on 6th July, 2018; the final meeting of the Think Tank was held on 30.07.2018. The meetings saw participation by senior officers of various ministries/ departments of the Government of India involved in different aspects of e-commerce, high level representatives from the industry bodies, e-commerce companies, telecommunication companies and IT companies, NGOs and independent experts.
