

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2114  
ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 08<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**VIEWS OF IAMAI ON DIGITAL COMPETITION LAW**

**QUESTION**

2114 SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has submitted its views on digital competition law on favouring big tech companies like Google;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would invite suggestions from top India StartUps which are not favouring the stance of IAMAI and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the broads views submitted by IAMAI to Government on digital competition law and the reaction of Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS.

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has submitted its views on digital competition law. IAMAI has drawn attention towards recent international developments regarding ex-ante regulations and has stated that there appears to be no global consensus among countries or experts as to which ex-ante approach to follow or whether ex-ante regulation is necessary. Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) has been constituted by the Government on 06.02.2023 on the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance in their Fifty-Third report on the subject 'Anti-competitive Practices by Big Tech Companies'. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the CDCL, inter-alia, include, (a) to review whether existing provisions in the Competition Act, 2002, and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder are sufficient to deal with the challenges that have emerged from the digital economy; (b) to examine the need for an ex-ante regulatory mechanism for digital markets through a separate legislation; (c) to study the international best practices on regulation in the field of digital markets; (d) to study other regulatory regimes/ institutional mechanisms/ government policies regarding competition in digital markets; (e) to study the practices of leading players/ Systemically Important Digital Intermediaries (SIDIs) which limit or have the potential to cause harm in digital markets; and (f) any other matters related to competition in digital markets as may be considered relevant by the Committee. CDCL has held several meetings since its constitution wherein representatives from various big-tech companies, industry associations and research bodies were invited to make presentations and submissions. Report of CDCL is yet to be submitted to the Government.

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