

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2607  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**DRAFT INDIAN TELECOMMUNICATION BILL 2022**

**2607 SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:  
SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made by Government in finalizing the Indian Telecommunications Bill 2022;
- (b) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has provided its recommendations on the regulatory framework for Over-The-Top (OTT) services by the proposed legislation;
- (c) the rationale Government has for including OTT companies within the definition of telecom services under the draft Bill, despite the substantial distinctions between OTT companies and telecom companies, as expressed by OTT companies themselves; and
- (d) whether the Bill, if passed in its present form, will pose an 'existential threat' to OTT startups, by imposing heavy compliance costs even in the pre-revenue stage?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

(a) to (d) The Draft Telecommunications Bill, 2023 is under consideration of the Government.

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