GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 854 ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 11th February, 2025 / MAGHA 22, 1946 (Saka)

CCI order to WhatsApp and Meta

QUESTION

854. Smt. Priyanka Chaturvedi:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of CCI's orders to WhatsApp and Meta based on their 2021 privacy policy and data sharing policy; and
- (b) the measures proposed by Government to prevent misuse of WhatsApp data following the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal's interim stay on CCI's order?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS.

(SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA)

(a)&(b): The Competition Commission of India (CCI) passed an order under Section 27 of the Competition Act, 2002, wherein the CCI has given directions to WhatsApp regarding not sharing user data collected on its platform with other Meta companies or other Meta Products for advertising purposes for a period of five years from 18.11.2024, sharing of WhatsApp user data for purposes other than advertising etc.

The above order has been challenged in the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) wherein an interim stay on the CCI's directive prohibiting data sharing for advertising purposes for five years has been given. The matter is sub-judice.