GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1011

ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 18, 1947 (SAKA)

Digital Competition Bill

QUESTION

1011. Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

- (a) in view of the proposed ₹4,000 crore turnover and 1 crore-user caps based on today's giants, how the Ministry will future-proof these numbers, so that fast-scaling, data-rich startups (e.g., AI-driven fintechs) do not slip through the net, and what data-reporting mechanisms will be required to capture their true economic footprint; and
- (b) whether the bill gives the CCI broad discretion to label a firm a "Systematically Significant Digital Enterprise" and if so, the procedural safeguards (e.g., transparent scoring models, independent review panels) being built to prevent arbitrary or politically motivated designations?

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): Based on the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance in its Fifty-Third report on the subject "Anti-Competitive Practices by Big-Tech Companies", the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) constituted a Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL). The CDCL submitted its report in February 2024 along with a draft Digital Competition Bill (DCB) which was subsequently placed on MCA website under the e-Consultation mode from March 12- May 15, 2024. Stakeholders including industry bodies, legal experts, civil society organisations, and domestic and global digital enterprises, submitted feedback, all of which have been examined.

Based on the comments/suggestions of stakeholders, the Government decided to adopt an evidence-based approach before finalising the legislation. Accordingly, the Ministry has initiated a Market Study to determine appropriate qualitative and quantitative thresholds for identifying Big Tech companies and Core Digital Services. The outcomes of this study will guide the development of a balanced, forward-looking digital competition framework that fosters innovation while ensuring fairness and competitive neutrality in digital markets.
