

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2395
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2016**

INTERMEDIARY IN TELECOM

2395. SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the telecom companies in their response to TRAI's consultation paper have opposed mandating a Telecommunications Service Priority agnostic intermediary for the purpose while demanding for free data for users;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the TRAI has made public comments it received for its consultation paper on free data; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) & (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a consultation paper on "Free Data" on 19.05.2016, in which a few stakeholders have opposed mandating Telecommunication Service Provider agnostic platform, while demanding for Free Data for users. Telecom Service Providers namely Aircel, Airtel, BSNL, Vodafone and MTNL have opposed such platform.

(c) & (d) In keeping with the practice, TRAI has placed comments and counter-comments on the consultation paper on Free Data on its website www.traigov.in
