GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1871 TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 3RD JULY, 2019.

REGULATION OF e-COMMERCE

1871. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state: वाणिज्य एवं उदयोग मंत्री

- (a) whether any measures are being implemented or in the process of being implemented for the regulation of e-commerce in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether e-commerce giants require special regulations to prevent predatory pricing and monopolising of market share and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the draft e-commerce policy is likely to be put in place along with the details of the two rounds of stakeholder consultations done so far?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल) THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a): Yes Sir. Owing to the cross cutting nature of e-Commerce, different laws and regulations across sectors govern the present e-Commerce activities, some of which are; Income Tax Act, 1961, Consumer Protection Act, 1986, Information Technology Act, 2000, Foreign Exchange Management Act, 2000, Payment And Settlement Systems Act 2007, Companies Act, 2013 and laws related to Goods and Services Tax.
- (b): Yes Sir. Competition Act, 2002, lays down the framework for regulating predatory pricing and anti-competitive agreements, including vertical restraints. Conduct of e-Commerce players enjoying a position of dominance in the relevant market, and proposed merger or amalgamation of e-Commerce firms, whether in India or off-shore, having an impact on competition in India is subject to the scrutiny under this Act.
- (c): A draft National e-Commerce policy has been prepared and placed in public domain. Comments from various stakeholders (companies, Industry associations, think tanks, foreign governments) have been received. Meetings have been held under the chairmanship of Minister for Commerce & Industry with industry stakeholders, e-Commerce companies, associations of kirana stores, traders and retailers to discuss matters relating to e-commerce. They have been asked for their inputs/ suggestions on the draft e-Commerce Policy.
