

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2098
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2023**

**IMPACT OF INCLUSION OF OTT COMMUNICATION SERVICES WITHIN
AMBIT OF TELECOM LAW**

2098. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government proposes to make a distinction between an Over-The-Top (OTT) communication service provider and any other OTT platform or service that includes communication services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which the Government has studied the impact of inclusion of OTT communication services within the ambit of Telecom law which regulates terrestrial carriage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the Government proposes to minimise the effect of the Telecom Bill, which will impact only India-based OTT players and not those operating from overseas resulting in a serious handicap to Indian service providers vis-a-vis their foreign competitors?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH
THAKUR):**

**(a) to (e) The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of
Communication has informed that it had released a draft Indian
Telecommunication Bill, 2021 for public consultation in September,
2022 which inter alia has reference to 'OTT Communication Service'
as a type of communication service.**
