

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1729
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 31, 2023
SRAVANA 9, 1945 (SAKA)**

MOBILE RECHARGE

1729. SHRI GHANSHYAM SINGH LODHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual profit earned by PayTM and other major companies on account of mobile recharge etc. in the country during the last two years;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make facility of mobile recharge etc. attractive for small vendors so that consumers can avail services from them;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be done;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to increase the tax on online mobile recharge etc. in order to encourage people to recharge their mobiles through small vendors, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the online marketing has adversely affected the vendors in the market, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the plan envisaged by the Government to balance the same?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)**

- (a) : Data regarding the annual profit earned by PayTM and other major companies specifically on account of mobile recharge is not maintained by Government.
- (b) & (c): TRAI has notified Telecom Consumers Protection Regulations (TCPR), 2012 wherein electronic voucher for mobile recharge has been defined under Regulation 2 which is reproduced as below
 - (f) “electronic voucher” means a voucher in electronic form.

Telecom subscribers can opt for tariff offers of their choice using electronic vouchers and all the service providers make available such facilities on an extensive scale. The Telecom Service providers provide this facility with the help of their channel partners of all descriptions including small vendors.

(d) to (f) : As far as direct taxes are concerned, there is no such proposal.

Further, GST rates and exemptions are prescribed on the recommendations of GST Council which is a constitutional body comprising members from Union Government and State/UT Governments. There is no such recommendation by GST Council in this regard.
