

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 230
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025/ Phalguna 26, 1946 (Saka)**

Status of Draft Digital Competition Bill

QUESTION

**230. Shri Balwant Baswant Wankhade:
Dr. Kalyan Vaijinathrao Kale:**

**Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a Digital Competition Law to prevent possible monopoly and unfair trade practices of large companies in the digital economy;**
- (b) the current status of deliberations on the proposed Digital Competition Law and the time by which it is likely to be implemented along with the details of stakeholders consulted;**
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to release Draft Bill for further consultation and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) the measures being taken to ensure that the proposed law effectively balances promotion of innovation with regulating the dominant positions of large digital players;**
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the potential impact of the proposed ex-ante framework on smaller players including start-ups and the steps being taken to mitigate any unintended consequences;**
- (f) whether it is correct that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has recommended that the ex-ante provision in the proposed draft of the Digital Competition Bill be excluded from the legislation at this stage; and**
- (g) the safeguards/measures being considered to address the concerns of major technology firms while ensuring a level playing field for all participants in the digital ecosystem?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO PARTS (a) to (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 230 FOR 17.03.2025 REGARDING STATUS OF DRAFT DIGITAL COMPETITION BILL

(a) to (c): 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).

- **During March 2023, CDCL held closed-door consultations with entities and stakeholders likely to be impacted by the proposed law including industry associations, domestic and foreign digital enterprises and think-tanks etc. List of stakeholders is placed at Annexure-I.**
- **Post consultation, CDCL submitted its report in February 2024 along with a draft Digital Competition Bill (DCB).**
- **Report of the Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) along with Draft DCB was placed on MCA website under the e-Consultation mode from March 12- May 15, 2024. More than 100 stakeholders submitted responses, ranging from legal professionals, industry associations, civil society organisations, and domestic & foreign digital enterprises providing digital services in India. List of stakeholders is placed at Annexure-II.**
- **Additionally, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTY) organized stakeholder discussions between 18.06.2024 to 20.06.2024.**

Suggestions/inputs/comments received from all stakeholders are being examined.

(d), (e) and (g): The CDCL held consultations with key stakeholders and examined both the domestic legal framework and the international regulatory practices for regulation of digital services. Subsequently, during the formulation of the draft DCB, consultations were held with several representatives from trade and industry associations of small businesses, think tanks and major tech firms to seek their views/comments.

Suggestions/inputs/comments received from all stakeholders are being examined.

(f) Pursuant to the stakeholders discussions organised by MeiTY, the comments/inputs are awaited.

Annexure-I

- 1. Amazon**
- 2. Apple India Private Ltd.**
- 3. Bundl Technologies Pvt Ltd. & Swiggy**
- 4. Centre for the Digital future**
- 5. Flipkart**
- 6. Google**
- 7. India Cellular and Electronics Association**
- 8. Internet and Mobile Association of India**
- 9. Meta (Facebook)**
- 10. Oyo**
- 11. Uber**
- 12. USIBC**
- 13. Zomato**
- 14. All India Gaming Federation**
- 15. Alliance of Digital India Foundation**
- 16. Artha Global**
- 17. Asia Travel Technology Industry Association**
- 18. AZB & Partners**
- 19. Confederation of All India Traders**
- 20. Digital News Publishers Association**
- 21. Esya Centre**
- 22. Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India**
- 23. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations**
- 24. MakeMyTrip**
- 25. Newspaper Association of India**
- 26. National Restaurant Association of India**
- 27. NASSCOM**
- 28. Paytm**
- 29. Twitter.**

S. NO.	NAME OF STAKEHOLDER
1.	Niti Aayog
2.	FIRST India
3.	CCAOI
4.	Swiggy
5.	American Bar Association
6.	E-Gaming Federation
7.	US-India Business Council (USIBC)
8.	India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA)
9.	Skyscanner
10.	ASSOCHAM
11.	US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)
12.	Match Group
13.	Founders and Investors of the Indian Digital Startup Ecosystem
14.	Indian Governance and Policy Project (IGAP)
15.	Play Games24*7 Private Limited
16.	Nasscom
17.	Luthra and Luthra Law Offices India
18.	Tech Freedom
19.	All India Gaming Federation (AIGF)
20.	India Regulatory Practices Group LLP (IRPG)
21.	Meta Platforms Inc.
22.	Civis
23.	Shilpi Bhattacharya, Professor, Jindal Global Law School (JGLS)
24.	Centre for Competition Law and Economics (CCLE)
25.	Amazon India

26.	India MART
27.	Airtel
28.	ACCESS Now
29.	International Bar Association (IBA)
30.	Broadband India Forum (BIF)
31.	Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF) & Indian Digital Media Industry Foundation (IDMIF)
32.	Coalition for App Fairness (CAF)
33.	OLA Electric
34.	The Dialogue
35.	Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF)
36.	International Center for Law & Economics
37.	Motion Picture Dist. Association (India) Private Limited (MPA)
38.	Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
39.	PRS Legislative Research
40.	EBC Publishing Private Limited and SCC Online
41.	MakeMyTrip India Private Limited
42.	Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF)
43.	MAIT
44.	TATA Digital
45.	Progressive Policy Institute (PPI)
46.	PhonePe Private Limited
47.	Trilegal
48.	Netflix
49.	Zomato
50.	Google
51.	National Law Institute University, Bhopal
52.	National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI)

53.	India Tech.Org
54.	Induslaw
55.	Digital News Publishers Association(DNPA)
56.	Software Freedom Law Center (SFLC)
57.	Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)
58.	Hindustan Unilever Limited
59.	Koan Advisory Group
60.	ESYA Centre
61.	PROSUS
62.	CUTS international
63.	DeepStrat Pvt Ltd
64.	FICCI
65.	Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF)
66.	(ACT)The App Association
67.	Anupam Sanghi & Associates (ASA)
68.	Asia Internet Coalition (AIC)
69.	Asia Travel Technology Industry Association (ATTIA)
70.	Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)
71.	Indian Music Industry (IMI)
72.	Microsoft
73.	Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
74.	DMD Advocates
75.	All India Chartered Accountant Society (AICAS)
76.	Economists at Compass Lexicon (Justin Coombs, Kadambari Prasad, Neha Georgie) and FTI Consulting (Avinash Mehrotra, Jincy Francis)
77.	Centre for Internet and Society (CIS)
78.	Sidharth Chauhan, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University
79.	BTG Advaya

80.	Rishab Bailey and IT for Change
81.	DSK Legal- Advocates and Solicitors
82.	Truecaller
83.	Dynamic Competition Initiative (DCI)
84.	Touchstone Partners
85.	Economic Laws Practice (ELP)
86.	Data Security Council of India (DSCI)
87.	Uber
88.	Nabin Jain
89.	Ruchika Gambhir(Researcher)
90.	Abhivardhan (Indic Pacific Legal Research)
91.	Rashmi Baranwal(Professional)
92.	Abhishek Murukate
93.	Vikas Kathuria(Researcher)
94.	Jayshree Chandra(Professional)
95.	Amey Kantak(Researcher)
96.	Iqra Jabeen Ansari(LTIM)
97.	Pankhudi Khandelwal (Dynamine Competition Initiative)
98.	Blaise Fernandes(Indian Music Industry)
99.	Jasleen Kaur(Professional)
100.	Murugavel Janakiraman (Matrimony.com)
101.	Ajay Kamath (Kamath Legal)
102.	Akanksha G(Researcher)
103.	Neil Bhutani (Dawesco LLP)
104.	Vivek Agarwal
105.	AMCHAM INDIA
106.	People Group/Shaadi.com and others