

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 91
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025/ ASHADHA 30, 1947 (SAKA)**

Current Status of the Draft Digital Competition Bill

QUESTION

91. Dr. Shashi Tharoor:

Shri Harish Chandra Meena:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the Draft Digital Competition Bill and the time by which it is likely to be introduced;**
- (b) the details of stakeholders consulted under the Pre-Legislative Consultation Policy;**
- (c) whether the Government plans to release the draft Bill for further consultations and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken to maintain a balance between promoting innovation and regulating the influence of large digital enterprises;**
- (d) whether it is correct that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has recommended to the Government that the ex-ante provision in the proposed draft of the Digital Competition Bill be excluded from the legislation at this stage;**
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the possible effects on small enterprises especially start-ups under the proposed ex-ante regulation along with the steps taken to reduce the unexpected outcomes; and**
- (f) the details of the safety measures proposed to mitigate the concerns of major technological firms in Rajasthan and the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND
HIGHWAYS.**

(SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA)

(a) to (d): 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). Consultations on the Draft Digital Competition Bill (DCB) were conducted in consonance with the pre- Legislative Consultation policy (PLCP) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) as under: -

- **During March 2023, CDCL held 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. The comments/inputs are awaited.**

Suggestions/inputs/comments received from all stakeholders have been examined. Based on the suggestions/comments/inputs received, it is felt that an evidence-based foundation through market studies is required to consider all relevant aspects for ex-ante regulation considering it is in nascent implementational stages globally.

(e) & (f): 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 have been examined.

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.**

Annexure-II

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

