

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 971
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH FEBRUARY, 2023**

NET NEUTRALITY

**971. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:
SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI D.K. SURESH:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure net neutrality in the Country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for not setting up the Multi-Stakeholder Body yet, as recommended by TRAI to DoT;
- (c) whether the Government has carried out any technical audit of net neutrality across different Internet Service Providers (ISPs);
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has periodically issued directions to monitor net neutrality in their network; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,
(SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN)**

- (a) Directives on Net Neutrality incorporating the principles of non-discriminatory treatment of content were issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in July 2018.

Subsequently, DoT amended the Unified License for Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Unified License (Virtual Network Operators) and Unified Access Service License Agreement to incorporate the principles of non-discriminatory treatment of content in Sept. 2018 and issued an amendment in Internet Service Provider license for Regulatory Framework on “Net Neutrality” in May 2019.

- (b) DoT sent a reference to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 31.07.2018 seeking TRAI’s recommendations on ‘Traffic Management Practices (TMPs) and Multi-Stakeholder Body for Net Neutrality’. TRAI provided its recommendation on the subject on 22.09.2020. The recommendations of TRAI are under examination.

- (c) to (f) Technical audit of Internet Service Providers which includes technical information about the network, upstream and downstream bandwidth, tariff plans etc., is being done annually.
