

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1183
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023/AGRAHAYANA 20, 1945 (Saka)
DIGITAL COMPETITION ACT
QUESTION

1183. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether a report has been submitted to the Government on “Anti Competitive Practices by Big Tech Companies”;**
- (b) if so, whether Government is taking measures for enactment of the “Digital Competition Act” and a code of conduct for tech companies, so as to ensure protection of interests of the consumers and the nation at large;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS.

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a)to(d): The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance examined the subject “Anti-Competitive Practices by Big Tech Companies” and presented its Report to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2022. On the recommendations of the Committee, the Government of India has constituted a Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) on 06.02.2023 to examine the need for a separate law on competition in digital markets. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the CDCL, inter-alia, include, (a) to review whether existing provisions in the Competition Act, 2002, and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder are sufficient to deal with the challenges that have emerged from the digital economy; (b) to examine the need for an ex-ante regulatory mechanism for digital markets through a separate legislation; (c) to study the international best practices on regulation in the field of digital markets; (d) to study other regulatory regimes/ institutional mechanisms/ government policies regarding competition in digital markets; (e) to study the practices of leading players/ Systemically Important Digital Intermediaries (SIDIs) which limit or have the potential to cause harm in digital markets; and (f) any other matters related to competition in digital markets as may be considered relevant by the Committee.
