

• TECHNOLOGY INSIGHT

Digital Competition Law?

Union Budget & EV Batteries

Digital Surakhsa Campaign



Digital Competition Law?

Earlier this month, the Central government notified the appointment of a Digital Competition Law Panel. The Panel has been entrusted with analysing the prevailing anti-competitive effect, if any, of the operations and practises adopted by Big Tech companies. The panel has further been tasked with assessing the sufficiency of the current competition law regime and identifying how big tech operations are governed in other jurisdictions with report on the subject to be submitted within 3 months. The report will form the basis for the proposed draft Digital Competition Act. The proposed law is likely to put a check on use of anti-steering provisions, self-preferencing, bundling and tying of services, discounting, search preferencing, etc.

The proposal for a Digital Competition Act comes in view of the Digital Markets Act recently adopted by the European Parliament and the increased anti-competitive vigil on Big Techs like Google that was heavily fined and penalised by the Competition Commission of India recently for its practices and policies, with the decision gaining further support from the Apex Court by its later refusal to stay the CCI's decision.

The panel will be headed by Manoj Govil, secretary in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and the Competition Commission of India (CCI) will provide secretarial and research assistance and logistic support to the panel.

Union Budget & EV Batteries

The 2023 budget has proposed to exempt capital goods and machinery used to manufacture lithium-ion cells for EV batteries from customs duty. The exemption is likely to further industry growth and encourage setting up of lithium-ion cell plants.

The Digital Suraksha Campaign

Social media giant META has partnered with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ('Meity') to launch the Digital Surakhsa Campaign. Pursuant to the partnership, the big tech will create and distribute useful resources in multiple Indian languages to raise awareness about online safety and cover subject such as tackling online frauds, reporting of harmful content and safety tips while generally interacting and transacting online.

The partnership will include both digital literacy and consumer awareness campaigns.

The campaign comes in furtherance of India's G20 Stay Safe Online Campaign that is "aimed at creating awareness among citizens including specially-abled persons to stay safe in an online world on the widespread use of social media platforms and rapid adoption of digital payments. As India is making significant efforts towards becoming a trillion-dollar digital economy, the campaign focuses on sensitizing users of all ages about online risk & safety measures and promoting cyber hygiene thereby reinforcing the cyber safety of citizens."



E 10 SF Defence Colony
New Delhi - 110024



asp@sinhapartners.com
www.sinhapartners.com



+91 11 41 046 911
+91 11 40 536 008