

India has recently floated the Draft Digital Competition Bill, 2024 to regulate the big tech companies from anti competitive practices. This has been followed the EU's Digital Markets Act

Provisions of the Bill

The Bill comes at the backdrop of unworkable program made by the tech giants in the recent past.

① Predicton regulation

The bill seeks to regulate the anti competitive practices beforehand and foresees such an act.

Previously India slapped fines of upto ₹ 1300 crore on

a tech company. This happened after the anti competition act took place.

The bill seeks to frame ex-ante framework on curbing such practices.

② Significant entities

The competition Commission of India lists SSDEs - systematically, Significant Digital Enterprise. This will be done based on turnover user base.

SSDE entities will be barred from self preferencing and anti-steering.

③ Associate Digital enterprises

The obligations of SSDEs will be extended to ADEs. For instance

a search engine leads to a map

then, the map will be recognized as an SSDE.

this provision can prevent circumvention of laws.

Tech companies have expressed their concerns such as

* The bill's ex-ante framework can divert the resources from research to compliance adherence.

* The rules can bring delay in services and can cause technical glitches.

* The companies fear the role of tech startups will diminish.

As India's digitized market is booming, regulating big tech firms is essential. The regulation must benefit all in the long run.