Q. What is net neutrality? what are the recommendations of TRAI on it?

Ans. The lifeline of modern economy is internet and UN has declared internet to be a basic need rather than a luxury.

Net Neutrality is the principle that all internet traffic to be treated equally as there have been instances that network provider companies have discriminated on speed issue.

The issue of net neutrality has originated from USA where human rights activists have demanded net neutrality to maintain competition among rival telecom companies and firms who enormously depend on internet speed.

There are also firms which have opposed this idea as according to them the cost of providing service would increase and the burden would be on the public.

Recommendations of TRAI

The telecom regulatory authority of India or TRAI has released its recommendations in 2018.

The recommendations are :-

① All telecom companies must treat internet according to the UN laws, which is a _basic need_ and not a luxury.

② Telecom companies must not provide _Fast lane services_ to high paying customers ~~or d~~ and must not discriminate speed on the basis of hardware used.

③ Telecom companies must not regulate the _content_ which is being viewed by the customer.

|←——————————— 14.5 CM ———————————→|

These recommendations are backed with a _fine_ of 50 lakhs. Net-neutrality must be administered globally but unfortunately, this is not done.   26.5 CM

Developed countries are using high speed internet in a monopolistic way. There must be a _global net-neutrality_.