**My View on Restoring Internet Freedom**

Net Neutrality is an important criterion in determining how the future of internet shapes up. Net Neutrality is the concept that ISPs should not slow down, block or charge websites a fee for their content to be displayed on consumers’ screens. As is commonly known, lot of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) worldwide are looking to make certain webpages/ features more accessible to customers. This would enable them to generate more revenue from those sites that pay more money to ISPs to provide faster accessibility. These would further give rise to Dominant Search engines and kill free internet, and the values that it holds. For example, internet researchers have accused Comcast of secretly blocking some internet traffic. (Pasquale Frank, Page 8).

The concept of free internet enables users get access to information the way they like, without any restrictions or interferences. It also protects innovation, since larger companies would pay money for their content, while negatively promoting startups to grow. Google, in support of net neutrality mentioned that building a new - fast lane online that consigns Internet content and applications to a relatively slow, bandwidth-starved portion of the broadband connection is illegal. (Pasquale Frank, Page 17).

In 2015, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has implemented rules that would protect Net Neutrality and enshrine the principle into regulation. Presently in 2017, the current FCC chairman Mr. Ajit Pai has proposed rolling back the Net Neutrality rules implemented in 2015 and he has enough votes to succeed. (Fung, 2017). Even the White House under Trump administration supports the Ajit Pai’s decision of rolling back the Net Neutrality rules. They say that Obama administration went wrong way in implementing the earlier FCC rules. (Washington Post, 2017)

In my opinion, the rules should not be rolled back. I strongly support net neutrality under Title II of the Telecommunications Act. I think restricting the citizens from free internet would block our free thought. Our opinions and ideas would be restricted and influenced by the ISPs. The ISPs would provide different quality of service to different traffic using prioritization techniques seeing their own benefit and security. They would charge on websites/applications depending on their demands and traffic which they would keep on increasing with higher demands. They would be able to block sites depending on their security threats which might be useful to us. This policy will also have a negative impact on startups, since their budget for paying ISP’s will never match the set players like Facebook, Netflix etc. As a result, it could reduce innovation and bring about a monopoly in specific segments. Stakeholders have advocated for regulatory intervention on the basis that this sort of traffic management and other forms of discrimination give network operators too much power over which applications will succeed or fail. (Peha, John Page 1).

Just like the Federal Communications Commission Act of 1934 that was set up to ensure telephone operators did not overcharge their customers, net neutrality is a very important policy that would ensure information/ resources available over the internet is not hindered by internet providers as it would restrict freedom to access of information. It's the idea that certain businesses are so tied to the public good, so instrumental to the workings of the economy that they have a duty to serve everyone. (Sydel Laura, Para 14).

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