

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3627
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2002
PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENTS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the then Department of Telecom Operations (DTO) placed a purchase order of Rs. 549.4 crore on a multi national companies (MNCs) for Large(L) and Extra(XL) exchanges in spite of their availability indigenously;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

- (a) No, Sir. Department of Telecom Operations (DTO) did not place any such purchase order. However, a tender for procurement of 2.045 million lines of New Technology Telephone Exchanges was opened on 18.8.2000 by the DTO. But, purchase orders against this tender were placed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during January, 2001. The equipment was procured indigenously.
- (b) & (c): Do not arise in view of (a) above.