

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:215  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010  
BAN ON IMPORT OF TELECOM EQUIPMENT  
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;Natarajan Shri P.R.

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

- (a) whether the telecom industry is facing difficulties in regard to import of telecom equipment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the import of telecom equipment is subjected to security related restrictions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to issue fresh guidelines for import of telecom equipment in the country taking into consideration the concerns expressed over ban on import of telecom equipment; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 215 FOR 9TH AUGUST, 2010 REGARDING "BAN ON IMPORT OF TELECOM EQUIPMENT"

(a) & (b) Madam, telecom industry is facing difficulties, inter alia, related to delays in procurement of equipment from foreign vendors due to security clearance procedures.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. In terms of amendments issued in December, 2009 in the Licence Agreements of all telecom service providers for security related concerns, the Licensee(s) have to apply to the Licensor for security clearance, along with the details of equipment(s) as well as details of equipment(s) suppliers and manufacturers including Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM), before placement of the final purchase order for procurement/upgradation of equipment/software for provisioning of telecommunications services under the licence and that it shall also include any such activity by the franchisee, agents or person of that licensees. In case, no response is received from the Licensor within thirty working days, it shall be presumed that there is no objection to procurement. Due to security related restrictions some of the proposals from service providers for procurement of equipments/software from some foreign vendors have been turned down.

(e) & (f) Yes, Madam. Amendments in the Unified Access Services (UAS)/Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (CMTS)/Basic Services License Agreements and template of agreement between telecom service provider and vendor of equipment/software/services has been issued on 28-07-2010 in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs, to addresses the security concerns in procurement of equipment from foreign vendors. The Salient Points of Amendments dated 28.07.10 in the License Agreement are enclosed as Annexure-I. The Salient Points of specified template of the agreement between telecom service provider and the vendor of equipment, products and services are enclosed as Annexure-II.