

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4302
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
PURCHASE OF TELECOM EQUIPMENT
Sule Supriya ;Tewari Shri Manish

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

- (a) whether the Government has permitted foreign vendors including Chinese to supply telecom equipment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether some imported telecom equipment contained malicious software;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

(a) to (c) 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 Licencer for security clearance, along with the details of equipment(s) as well as details of equipments(s) suppliers and manufactures including Original Equipment Manufactures (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.

Thereafter, 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 were 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.

Accordingly, a telecom service provider may procure equipment/software/services from any foreign vendor including Chinese subject to security clearance of equipment/software/services, supply chain and vendor or a telecom service provider may enter into agreement with any foreign vendor including Chinese as prescribed by Department of Telecommunications for purchase of equipments/software/services.

(d) No incidence of imported telecom equipment containing malicious software has come to the notice of Government.

(e) & (f) Do not arise in view of (d) above.