

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2725

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011

AGREEMENT IN STRATEGIC SECTORS

Abdulrahman Shri ;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has made it mandatory to get security clearance before entering into agreement in strategic sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the clearances from all concerned departments/agencies have been taken by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) before entering into the agreement with Huawei;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs has sought to review the agreement;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) to (g) Agreement in Strategic Sector are undertaken by concerned government ministries/ agencies after security vetting by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

To take care of national security concerns related to telecom network, government has issued an amendment to various telecom licences on 31st May 2011, wherein it is mandated that all telecom network should be tested and certified as 'Safe to Connect' before inducting these into network. For carrying out these tests, it is essential to know the details of the equipment, which are to be tested and develop the tests for security testing of these equipments.

IISc, Bangalore, has been assigned the task of developing the tests on telecom equipment. The tests cannot be developed without knowing the technical details. Accordingly, IISc asked various telecom equipment suppliers to enter into agreement to provide requisite technical details of their equipment to facilitate the IISc for development of standards, procedures and tools for the testing of these equipments. IISc, Bangalore has signed a non disclosure agreement with Huawei who will provide the requisite technical information with respect to their equipment being commercially sensitive information. The MHA is aware about the agreement between IISc and Huawei.