

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1384

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

AGENCY TO TEST IMPORTED TELECOM EQUIPMENT

Pangi Shri Jayaram;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) whether there is a growing concern over the increase in the import of crucial telecom equipment especially from the security point of view;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government contemplates to set up a nodal agency to test and certify all products and services procured through import by all service providers including the private players;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the existing mechanism, if any, in place to monitor and test telecom procurements via import route?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Madam, there are security concerns regarding telecom equipments including imported equipment.
- (b) Now-a-days, Telecom equipments are prone to spyware/malwares etc., if attempted by the outfits, antisocial or anti national activists. Such spyware/malware may damage the concerned telecom equipment causing disruption in services or leakage of information to unintended user.
- (c) & (d) Government has decided to establish a Centre for Telecom Testing and Security Certification. A pilot lab has already been set up at IISc, Bangaluru, to develop the test standards, procedures and test tools to test the telecom equipments.
- (e) To take care of national security concerns related to telecom network, Government has issued the amendment to various telecom licenses wherein it is mandated that Licensee shall induct only those network elements into his network, which have been got tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security standards by any International Agency/Laboratory of the respective standards.