

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:140

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012

SECURITY CONCERN OF IMPORTED G EQUIPMENT .

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

- (a) whether the Indian security agencies have expressed concern about a telecom company's 4G technology based network due to its management by a Chinese company;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the number of towns/cities in the country where 4G network is being managed by ZTE company; and
- (e) the suggestions given by the investigating agencies for training local people in the management of 4G?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Madam, a reference has been received from a Security agency expressing that M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd., while rolling out the 4G services is using Time Division-Long Term Evolution (TD-LTE) technology, which has been developed by M/s ZTE, a Chinese company. Therefore, role of ZTE in managing the 4G network and adequacy of training to local personnel of M/s Bharti Airtel may be ascertained.

(c) Government has mandated that licensee shall induct only those network elements into his telecom network, which have been got tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security Standards from any international agency/labs of those standards until 31st March, 2013. From 1st April, 2013 the certification shall be got done only from authorized and certified agencies/labs in India. Further, as per licence condition, the licensee shall employ only Resident, trained Indian Nationals as Chief Technical Officer/s, Chief Information Security Officer, Nodal Executives for handling interception and monitoring cases and in-charge of GMSC, MSC, Softswitch, Central Database and System Administrator/s.

(d) The information with regard to number of towns/cities in the country where 4G network is managed by ZTE company, is being collected from the Telecom Service Providers.

(e) The Security agency has not given any suggestion. However, it has inquired about the training given by M/s ZTE to the local personnel to handle the 4G network.