

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4320

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

SECURITY CONCERN OF IMPORTED EQUIPMENTS

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

- (a) the details of Chinese companies which are supplying telecom equipments/ instruments to BSNL, MTNL and other telecom companies in the country;
- (b) whether the credentials of supplier companies in view of security threat have been verified and approved by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons for allowing the import of telecom equipment and telephone instruments; and
- (e) 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 (e) Madam, at present, Telecom Service Providers can deploy various telecom equipments from any vendor including Chinese companies based on their techno-commercial considerations subject to compliance to terms and conditions of license. M/s Huawei Technologies and ZTE are the major Chinese companies supplying the telecom equipments to various telecom service providers.

In order to address the security concerns related to telecom equipments, comprehensive guidelines in the form of license Amendment have been issued to Telecom Service Providers on 31.05.2011 in Access Service licenses and on 3rd, June, 2011 for other licenses. Vide these amendments, it is mandated that Telecom Service Providers are responsible for the security of their network. It is also mandated that only those network elements shall be inducted into their Telecom Network, which have been tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security Standards e.g. IT and IT related elements against ISO/IEC 15408 standards, for Information Security Management System against ISO 27000 series Standards, Telecom and Telecom related elements against 3GPP, 3GPP2 security standards etc., from any international agency/labs of the standards e.g. Common Criteria Labs in case of ISO/IEC 15408 standards until 31st March, 2013. From 1st April, 2013 the certification shall be got done only from authorized and certified agencies/labs in India. The copies of test results and test certificates shall be kept by the licensee for a period of 10 years from the date of procurement of equipment, which can be audited /demanded any time during this span, by the licensor.