

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3930  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014  
TESTING AND CERTIFICATION OF TELECOM ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENTS  
Sreeramulu Shri B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has notified standards for telecom and electronic items and has made it mandatory for all telecom equipments to be tested and issued security certificates to prevent the threat from spyware/malware;
- (b) if so, the complete guidelines thereof;
- (c) whether any Telecom Testing and Certification Centre has been set up in the country as proposed in the guidelines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the flow of low quality telecom and electronic products and also address the security concerns of the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) Madam, In the modern age, telecom equipments are prone to spyware/malwares etc., if attempted by the outfits, antisocial/anti national activists or unfriendly country. These spyware /malware etc. are the potential threats, if embedded in any of the telecom network elements by vendor or any other third party source, which may damage the network element concerned causing disruption in services, infecting other network elements or leakage of information to unintended user.

To address the national security concerns, Government has issued the comprehensive security guidelines in form of license amendment on 31.05.2011 for access service licenses and on 03.06.2011 for other licenses, which have been included in the Unified License subsequently. These guidelines have been issued in consultation with Ministry of Home affairs and telecom Industry, wherein it is mandated that the 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.

(c) to (e) Presently there is no lab in the country for the testing and security certification of telecom equipment. However, a pilot lab has been established at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru to develop security standards, test processes and test tools for the testing and security certification of telecom equipment. Meanwhile, telecom service providers have been mandated to get the equipment tested from any authorized international/national lab before inducting in their network.