

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4474  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014  
SMART CARD FOR EX SERVICEMEN  
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA)

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether reportedly the Ex-servicemen were made to pay excess money for securing the smart card and then again for its upgradation and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the names of agencies / authorities responsible for engaging UTI Infrastructure Technology and Services Limited (UTITSL) for development of the web portal;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints regarding attempts made by UTITSL and other agencies to influence the personnel of ECHS including officers of bribe, undue pressure and disciplinary action etc. affecting their career prospects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective action being contemplated in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (RAO Inderjit Singh) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) SITL was contracted by ECHS in January 2004 after a bidding process for executing a turnkey project that included provision of Smart Cards with 16 kb capacity @ Rs.90/- per Smart Card for supply/installation and maintenance of IT Hardware. The Agreement between ECHS and SITL was renewed on 31 May 2010 wherein, capacity of the Smart Cards was enhanced from 16 kb to 32 kb. The 32 kb Card incorporated Medical details, Medicine issued details, Parent Polyclinic changing option and increased number of entries for Medical History and Medical Equipment details which were not in 16 kb Card. The consideration amount for all these services is Rs.135/- per Smart Card delivered by SITL.

(b) UTITSL was not hired for developing of the Web portal.

(c) & (d): No complaint regarding such attempts by UTITSL has been received. However, a complaint against SITL was received from the Director (Ops & Coord) by Central Organisation (ECHS) in the year 2011 regarding an attempt to bribe him for obtaining a favourable feedback on the performance of the Company with ECHS. A show Cause notice was issued to SITL to which SITL denied all the allegations. The contract of SITL with ECHS is terminating on 15th April, 2015 and the process to select a viable option has already commenced.