

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 21.04.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**

**PROHIBITION ON PURCHASE OF LAPTOPS COMPUTERS BY BRAND NAMES .**

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Dr. Anil Kumar Sahani

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Ministry of Finance has prohibited the Government departments from purchasing computers, laptops by brand names;

(b) if so, the reasons for Director General of Supplies & Disposal (DGS&D) concluding rate contracts of laptops, computers by brand names than on specifications;

(c) is there any proposal to cancel rate contracts of laptops, computers by brand names and to conclude new rate contracts, specification-wise;

(d) whether laptops, computers available on DGS&D rate contracts are available in open market at much cheaper rates; and

(e) if so, the reasons for concluding rate contracts of computers, laptops at higher rates?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a): Ministry of Finance has advised Government Departments to strictly follow the open tender system without vitiating it by specifying the brand names for purchase of personal computers, servers, computer peripherals and networking products.

b): DGS&D invites open tenders as per general technical specifications finalized in consultation with the firms and user departments without mentioning the brand name. Rate Contracts are concluded based on open competition through on-line tendering and responses received from various firms who agree to the General technical specifications of the tender enquiry for their respective models and brand mentioned by them in their tenders. The RCs so awarded indicate the general technical specifications as well as model No. and brand wherever indicated by the firms. All these RCs are available on DGS&D website [www.dgsnd.gov.in](http://www.dgsnd.gov.in) The RCs are awarded in the name of firms indicating their accepted brand(s) & model number(s) along with the general technical specifications as annexures to the RCs for the items awarded.

( c): Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

( d) & e): DGS&D has a mechanism of discovery of prices based on the specifications finalized through a process of Consultative Committee Meetings in consultation with stake holders viz. Suppliers, Govt. Departments, Industry Associations, etc. and inviting tenders on open tender basis through e-procurement system, thus ensuring transparency and competitive bidding. DGS&D, through systems of pre-dispatch inspection, ensures genuineness of the products & conformation to the specifications. Prices of items available in the open market are not comparable as they may differ in specifications, warranty obligations and also are not pre-inspected before dispatch. For IT products such as Laptops, Computers etc., the RC is valid for one year with a half yearly midterm review. In case the manufacturers offer to sell the product quoted in RC at a price lesser than the DGS&D RC price, the principle of in-built Fall Clause will automatically come into effect. The manufacturer ipsofacto offers the same price to DGS&D indentors.