

New Delhi, the 17th December, 1998

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Purchase of Computer Systems by  
Government Departments.  
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The undersigned is directed to invite attention to the provisions of GFR 102(1) and the Annexure to the same according to which "Open Tender" system (that is, invitation to tender by public advertisement) should be used as a general rule in all cases in which the estimated value of the demand is Rs. 50,000/- and above.

2. It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry by Deptt. of Electronics that certain Ministries/Deptts etc. issue tenders for purchase of personal computers where they specify the international brands like IBM, Compaq, HP, Digital, DELL or Gateway Micron. This vitiates the guidelines for open tender system laid down in GFRs and deprives other brands including domestic manufacturers of an opportunity to participate in the tender. Further Deptt. of Electronics have pointed out that brand names do not have any great advantage since at the broad level there is hardly any difference between the competing products because they predominantly use Intel microprocessors.

3. Separately, DGS&D have informed that generalised specifications for personal computers have been finalised and the process of concluding rate contract is being initiated.

4. It is, therefore advised that Ministries/Departments should follow the open tender system without vitiating it by specifying brand names in accordance with the provisions in GFRs for purchase of personal computers till a rate contract for computers is concluded by DGS&D. Thereafter, computers could be purchased on rate contract basis.

*Narain Das.*

( NARAIN DAS )

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

All Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India

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8/1/E-II A/03  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Expenditure  
E.II A Branch  
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New Delhi, dated the 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2003

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

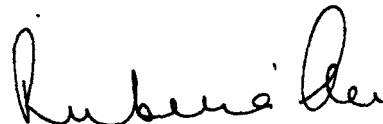
**Subject: Purchase of IT products by Government Departments.**

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's circular no. 8(4)/E.II A/98 dated 17.12.1998 wherein all the Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India were advised to follow the open tender system without vitiating it by specifying brand names, in accordance with the provisions in GFRs for purchase of Personal Computers.

2. Lately, it has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that certain Ministries/Departments, etc. are issuing tenders for purchase of IT products viz. Servers, Computer Peripherals and Networking Products, where they specify the brand names in the tender notices for procurement of these products. This vitiates the guidelines for open tender system laid down in GFRs and deprives other brands including domestic manufacturers of an opportunity to participate in the tender.

3. The matter has been considered in this Ministry in consultation with Department of Information Technology and in partial modification of this Ministry's above referred circular dated 17.12.1998, Ministries/Departments are advised to strictly follow the open tender system without vitiating it by specifying the brand names in accordance with the provisions in GFRs for purchase of **Personal Computers, Servers, Computer Peripherals and Networking Products**. Further, the organisations eligible for participating in the Govt./PSU tender should be approved ISO 9002 or equivalent companies.

4. In this regard, DGS&D has separately informed this Ministry that they are in the process of entering into agreements with reputed manufacturers, for most favoured customer prices for highly technical and specialised items like Servers, Peripherals, Networking Equipment etc. and till such time, rate contract for these items is concluded by DGS&D, Ministries/Departments are advised to purchase such items through proper tendering procedure (without vitiating by mentioning brand names). Thereafter, these items could be purchased on rate contract basis.



(RUBINA ALI)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

To,

Financial Advisers in the Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India.