ਪੰਜਾਬ ਆਈ.ਸੀ.ਟੀ. ਐਜੂਕੇਸ਼ਨ ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀ

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ਵੱਲ

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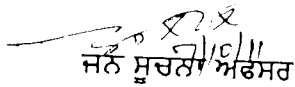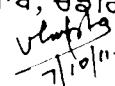
New Delhi-110014

ਮੀਮੋ ਨੰ:5/11-ICT-2011/RTI/ 4.9.

ਮਿਤੀ,ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ 07-10-2011

ਵਿਸ਼ਾ:- ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਆਈ.ਐਕਟ 2005 ਅਧੀਨ ਮੰਗੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਸਬੰਧੀ।

1.   ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰ:ਨਿਲ   ਮਿਤੀ,ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ 29-09-2011 ਦੇ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ।

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ:	ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾ	ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦਾ ਜਵਾਬ
1.	Kindly provide the order vide which such a switch has been made Boss to Microsoft.	The switch over was affected on the basis of the decision taken by a committee consitituted for the purpose under the chairmanship of the PSSE. The decision was endorsed by the Chief Secretary on file. A copy of the minutes are enclosed.
2.	Kindly provide a copy of file notes regarding the same incluiding minutes of meeting held in this regard.	Please refer Para 1 above.
3.	Kindly provide an approximate cost of such a change being implemented in the operating systems solutions.	Please find attached the performa containing comparision of cost for continuing Microsoft and the cost for continuing Eduboss.

4.	Please provide the budget head under which this additional cost will be allocated.	The cost for purchase of Software will be incurred from ICT fund.
5.	Has any research been conducted or study launched bfore such a decision to shift from BOSS to Microsoft was taken. If so. Please provide a copy of such.	The above committee obtained the details of various States which are using Eduboss or Microsoft. The same are contained in the minutes being sent to you.
6.	Please provide the cost incurred till now in installing BOSS in schools, printing text books and training teachers for the same.	The department has not spent any cost for installing BOSS in schools.

ਜਨ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ
ਪੰਜਾਬ ਆਈ.ਸੀ.ਟੀ.ਐਜੂਕੇਸ਼ਨ ਸ਼ੁਸਾਇਟੀ
ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ।

Minutes of meeting for purchase of operating system held under the Chairmanship of Shri.C.Raul, Principal Secretary, School Education, Punjab, on 10-06-2011 at Conference hall, Mini Secretariat, Punjab.

Present :
1. Shri. Baldeo Purushashra, Director General School Education- Punjab
2. Sh. Dalip Kumar, Director, Information Technology, Punjab
3. Shri. Jagtar Singh Jagga, DM Projects
4. Shri. Rajeev Sharma, ASPD, Punjab Edusat Society
5. Sh. K.S.Pahra, GM(F&A), Punjab Edusat Society.
6. Sh. D.S.Dhillon, GM, Department of IT, Punjab
7. Sh. Rajneesh Mallhi, Head, SeMt, Department of IT, Punjab.

1.   Briefly, meeting was held on 10-02-2011 under the chairmanship of Sh. S.C. Aggarwal, Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab regarding purchase of operating system for Edusat computer labs wherein it was decided that as per the decision already taken by PICTES to adopt Edu-Boss for the schools covered under the ICT project, Edu-Boss may be adopted for the labs being set up under Punjab Edusat Society also.

2.   Subsequently, Mr. Yogesh Kochar, Director, M/s Microsoft Corporation made a representation and requested for a meeting with Principal secretary School Education, Punjab. He was therefore, invited to make a presentation in this regard on 22-03-2011 at 11:30AM wherein the following were present:-
1. Shri. Sarvesh Kaushal, IAS, Principal Secretary Information Technology- Punjab.
2. Shri. Baldev Purushashra, Director General School Education- Punjab
3. Shri. Vijender Kumar, Director Secondary Education- Haryana
4. Shri. J.S. Bhatia, Director- CDAC
5. Shri. Jagtar Singh Jagga, DM Projects
6. Shri. Rajeev Sharma, ASPD- EDUSAT
7. Shri. Partik Mehta, Director Public Sector- Microsoft
8. Shri. Yogesh Kochhar, Director- Microsoft
9. Smt. Irina Ghose, Director Education- Microsoft
10.   Shri. Ashish Kumar Mittal, Business development Manager – Microsoft

3.   The Microsoft representatives (Ms. Irina Ghose, Mr. Yogesh Kochhar, Mr. Partik Mehta, Mr. Ashish Mittal) made a presentation (copy attached) with regard to the value proposition on the use of Microsoft Platform and key consideration towards choice of software platform covering the following major aspects:

　　　　□　　　Holistic value consideration in terms of "Value to students , teachers , institutions and employers" rather than just considering the cost. Some of the aspects as follows-
　　□ ease of usage
　　□ availability of learning tools

- ❏ skill building & employability
- ❏ economic & employability impact in India
- ❏ content , applications and community creation for teachers
- ❏ teacher training and capacity building
- ❏ support availability
- ❏ administration ease, compatibility and adherence to standards
- ❏ Microsoft Education program snapshot
- ❏ Latest position and trend of state wise adoption of choice of platform for the K12 segment for last 2 years
- ❏ None of the state have seen the impact of BOSS so far
- ❏ Procurement update of States for the last 6 month

4.   The status of each State was discussed at large where examples were provided for the states of UP , Tamil Nadu and Assam, which shifted back from Open Source to Microsoft again after having experience of Linux for 3 years, 4 years and 7 years respectively. Representatives of C DAC, Mr. Bhatia objected to this and asked to provide the relevant data in support of this and he also enquired whether the shift from Open Source to Microsoft meant 100 % adoption in the State on which the Chairman has clarified that the shift would mean the recent tenders/contract are being awarded for Microsoft. Further, it was decided that Microsoft shall provide the necessary documents in support of the same in seven working days so that the matter can be decided towards a trend on migration to the Microsoft platform accordingly on the basis of merit .

5.   CDAC was also asked to present their case but Mr. J S Bhatia told that they have already submitted the necessary documents and there in noting additional to be presented. They offered to participate in the discussions, which was agreed upon.

6.   CDAC representative mentioned that there is not much need of discussion on the technology platform as the software to be provided is only for Edusat Labs where the content files are to be played for teaching the students. To this, the chairman clarified that this meeting is not for deciding the software for Edusat but for the entire wings of the Education Department in Punjab. Here it may be added that the Edusat labs are also meant for student and teachers training and other all computer related activities so that the optimal use of this large infrastructure could be ensured.

7.   Principal secretary IT was of the opinion that before deciding about the platform , it is important to first evaluate whether both the software are comparable in terms of the technical benefits , value to the primary stake holders like students, teachers, institutions, platform currently being used in on-going ICT projects in Punjab, present state of usage of open source, whether the department has been able to switch over from Windows to BOSS in the last couple of years, availability of text books on which platform , features like indemnification /release and versioning/ roadmap/ user experience/security/compatibility /hardware certifications / ease of use and adaption/ support training and certifications /documentation, States

using Microsoft / States using Open Source/ States switched from one platform to the other etc.

8.   There was also a deliberation on the trend of reverting back to Microsoft platform, to which CDAC representatives have told that their system is very new as compared to Microsoft to which Microsoft mentioned that the trend was on OSS/ Linux which has been prevalent for the last 10 years and still there are switchovers happening now.

9.   Microsoft representative pointed out that for ICT projects, there was a lot of emphasis given to quality considerations of hardware, UPS and furniture etc. In view of this, a similar view should be taken towards the software as well.

10.   Microsoft representative informed that prices offered for the purpose of school education are highly discounted as compared to the prices available commercially .

11.   In compliance of the decision taken in Para 2 above Microsoft submitted some document in support of its claim in respect of some states which shifted back from open source to Microsoft. The document submitted by Microsoft were discussed in meeting held on 05.05.2011 under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary School Education were in following were present:

1. Shri. Sarvesh Kaushal, IAS, Principal Secretary Information Technology- Punjab.

2. Shri. Vijender Kumar, Director Secondary Education- Haryana.
3. Shri. J.S. Bhatia, Director- CDAC.
4. Shri. Navdeep Singh Chahal- CDAC.
5. Shri. Jagtar Singh Jagga, DM Projects.
6. Shri. Rajeev Sharma, ASPD- EDUSAT.
7. Shri. Partik Mehta, Director Public Sector- Microsoft.
8. Smt. Irina Ghose, Director Education- Microsoft.
9. Shri. Ashish Kumar Mittal, Business development Manager – Microsoft.

The representatives of Microsoft reiterated their stand and explained that they have given the documents of various states who adopted LINUX and subsequently shifted back to Microsoft

12.   Since, Sh. B.Purusharth, Director General School Education Punjab who is indenting officer was away on tour, Principal Secretary Information Technology desired that the document submitted by the Microsoft may be analyzed but it was the final decision will be taken by the Officers Committee later on in the presence of DGSE.

13.   Accordingly, today's meeting was fixed to deliberate and take a decision keeping in view the status of other states who earlier adopted E-Boss and then reverted back to Microsoft operating system. The documents pertaining to different status as submitted by Microsoft were discussed as under:-

i.   **Himachal Pradesh:**

Microsoft has produced a copy of draft tender document for supply and installation of Multimedia Educational Content, Teacher Training, Monitoring, Refresher, Integrated Computer Projector, Computer Hardware, Software and other allied accessories for 628 Govt. Sr. Sec. Schools of Himachal Pradesh. The Last for submission of bids was 17.08.2010.

In this tender document, Himachal Pradesh Govt. has opted for Operating System-Desktops "Windows Starter Kit, Windows 7 OS Licences for all the desktops Prof Upgrade, MS Office, Visual Studio, Encarta Encyclopedia and for above PCs with PIL in PC based schools".

However, the Govt. never resorted to Himachal Pradesh.

ii.   **Uttar Pradesh:**

Microsoft have submitted a copy of tender document of State of Uttar Pradesh for supply of Computer Servers, Terminals, UPS, Printers, Video Cameras, Scanners, Web Cameras, Modems and Projectors for ICT Labs of 1500 Schools, dated 24-11-2010.

This tender document also contains demand of Microsoft OS.

However, Utter Pradesh State never opted for EBOSS.

iii.   **Rajasthan:**

Microsoft has submitted a copy of tender document for Computer Education and Information and Communication Technology at schools. The last date for receipt of bids was 17.02.2010. In this tender document the Rajasthan Govt. has opted for Microsoft.

However, M/s CDAC have also submitted document of Rajasthan Govt. for purchase of IT Infrastructure to set ICT Center at 247 schools in rural areas of District Ajmer and Jaipur region. The last date of submission of bids was 14.02.2011. In which they have demanded , *"OEM Windows 7 Prof. with recovery media to be preloaded in four Desktop PC's Vendor must furnish a list of serial numbers of all CoA along with the corresponding list of PC system serial numbers for Operating System licenses which are pre-loaded and **one PC may be configured with Open source OS (Debian Linux)***".

It means that in Rajasthan the state is using both Microsoft and Debian Linux Operating System and not EBOSS.

iv. **Madhya Pradesh:**

Madhya Pradesh Small industry corporation ltd. has also sent an inquiry dated 23.03.2011 to M/s Microsoft for buying Software products from Microsoft Corporation.

v. **Chhattisgarh:**

In Chhattisgarh also tenders were invited for implementation of Computer Education Programme in 1900 Govt. High & Higher Secondary Schools. In this tender also MS Office suite was adopted.

vi. **Maharashtra:**

The Maharashtra State invited tender for implementation of Computer Education Programme in 2500 Sr. Sec. Schools in 2009-10. With Windows Vista Started Edition Microsoft Office 2007.

vii. **Andhra Pradesh:**

Andhra Pradesh Govt. also invited bids for procurement of Computer Hardware for School Education with Microsoft Window Operating System and MS Office suite.

viii. **Karnataka:**

Karnataka Govt. invited bids for implementation of ICT Scheme in 4396 Govt. Sec. and Higher Sec. Schools. Opting Windows 2008 Server Standard Edition.

ix. **Tamil Nadu:**

Tamilnadu State in the year December 2008 invited tenders on Linux whereas, as per the recent communication between Director of School Education, Tamilnadu and Elcot (Nodal Agency) Tamilnadu on 25-02-2011 demanded Microsoft Operating Systems in all 4111 schools as there was a great difficulty in the use of the system of Linux which goes to prove that Tamilnadu has shifted that from LINUX to Microsoft.

x. **Jharkhand:**

This document is for installation and maintenance Computer Systems in the schools from the year 2009-10 to 2013-14, in which Windows Vista has been used.

xi. **Assam:**

This document is tender for supply of Computer and accessories dated 26.08.2010 in which they have demanded Microsoft Operating System.

The above documents pertains to demand of Microsoft Windows in the recent tenders and support the contention that following states have shifted back to Microsoft from open source Which was earlier dealing with open source and now they have demanded Microsoft.

xii) **Haryana**

Haryana State is still in the process of implementing open source.

xiii) **Punjab**

Punjab is also in the process of implementing Open source under ICT programme. *However, Deputy Manager(ICT) has at page 41 ante intimated that it is difficult to give the comparison between BOSS and MS Windows as Boss has not yet implemented in the State. However, it is underlying that MS Windows scores quite high on all points.*

14. As regards, observations of PSIT as mentioned in para 5 above regarding evaluation of both the softwares, the various aspects are discussed as under:-

Compatibility

Microsoft	Edu-BOSS	Comments of C-Dac
Microsoft products are built on principles of interoperability and open standards and hence offer greater compatibility and tighter integration amongst offerings.

http://www.microsoft.com/about/legal/en/us/intellectualproperty/iplicensing | BOSS compatibility is at times a secondary consideration. Given that all of the applications on BOSS are freely available on the Internet, BOSS is essentially a bundling of these applications with no clarity of support for global standards. The applications built on BOSS are more likely to require recompilation and sometimes source code adaptation to keep up with changing interfaces. | As per Department of Information Technology, Government of India during November 2010, approved Open Standards in e-Governance, thus enabling promotion of Open Source Software.

The interoperability has always been a problem area for Microsoft. No other company has deviated more from standards.

The best example of that is Internet Explorer, which has been most infamous for W3C standard adherence. Microsoft time and gain makes efforts to make its files system inaccessible to other operating systems and by imposing patent restrictions.

Microsoft is perhaps the only company, which has been disgraced by more |

		anti-trust litigations than any other. Interoperability was an issue with Microsoft that was the very reason Open Standards came into being.

Learning Curve

15   The Microsoft windows is a globally accepted software and the students and teachers are used to it since the inception of the ICT project. In case, we suddenly swithch over to Edu-BOSS, the learning curve is likely to go up because of obvious difficulty of change over to new system and the output level is likely to go downwards.

Employment level

16   Most of the students after passing out 10+2 are absorbed in different public and private firms and even go abroad where they will have to work on Microsoft operating system. Those who would study E-Boss shall find lot of difficulties and cut a sorry figure when their would be employer would ask them that he needs a person having expetise on Microsoft Windows.

Decision

17   In the Department of Education Punjab, two types of computer labs are being set up i.e

(i)   Computer labs under ICT project for providing computer education/ Training to the students.

(ii)   Edusat computer labs for viewing/ re-viewing the lectures broadcast through Edusat network as well as Digital Library content.

As far as the computer labs set up under ICT project are concerned, it will be better to let students work and learn in the environment which is prevalent in the state/ country to make them market ready from the point of view of employability skill and also save them from the transition problem which would occur, if they are trained in an environment of open source based Edu-boss operating system (whose presence in the market as well as govt. offices is almost nil) to Windows Based System.

18.   As the state is already spending around 125 crores during the year 2011-12 under ICT project. It would therefore, not be prudent to train the students in an environment which is not having presence in the market for saving about approx. Rs. 8,77,39,305/- or so because it will defeat the purpose of quality education for which Rs.125 crores is being spent for the year 2011-2012.

19.   As far as Edusat labs are concerned, the objective of setting up of these labs is to view/ review the content broadcast from the Edusat network as well as placed in the school libraries. Therefore, the operating system is not of much concern. However, these Edusat computer labs will not be of optimal use, if these are being used for this particular programme only. These labs shall also be used for imparting better computer education/ training to the students under the ICT project by bring down the computer student ratio and making more computer time available for the students.

20.   After considering above mentioned facts and figures and considering the arguments given in the favour of Edu-Boss or Microsoft and the trend of reverting back to the windows, it was decided that the Department of Education should go on with the implementation of Microsoft operating system in the labs set up under the ICT project for imparting computer education to the children studying in govt. schools. As regards Edusat computer labs, it was decided that E-Boss may be installed in the Edusat labs of 2 districts as a pilot project and Microsoft operating system in the remaining 18 districts.

Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab
Department of School Education
Chandigarh.