



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT,
SECRETARIAT,
CHENNAI- 600 009.

Letter (Ms) No.1 /e-Gov.II/2012-1 dated 12.03.2014

From
Thiru T.K.Ramachandran, I.A.S.,
Secretary to Government.

To
All the Departments of Secretariat,
Secretariat, Chennai – 9.

All Heads of Departments.

All District Collectors.

The Managing Director,
ELCOT,
No.692 Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035.

The Chief Executive Officer,
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, Chennai-600 035.

Sir,

Sub: Information Technology Department - Mandatory installation of BOSS Operating System (an Open Source Operating System developed by C-DAC) in Computer Systems in all Government Departments across Tamil Nadu – Suggested - Reg.

Ref: 1. G.O.(Ms).No. 15, Information Technology Department, dated 09.11.2011
2. From the Joint Director, C-DAC, Chennai, letter dated 05.09.2012 and 24.10.2013.

I am to invite attention to the reference first cited wherein orders have been issued for installation of BOSS (Bharat Operating System Solutions) Linux, which is an Open Source Software developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Chennai-113 in all Departments of Secretariat. Accordingly, BOSS Linux has been installed in the Departments of Secretariat and is being used by them.

2. In this regard, I am to state that in many Government Departments in Tamil Nadu Windows XP which has been copyrighted by Microsoft Corporation (India) Private Limited is being used as the Primary Operating System. Recently Microsoft Corporation (India) Private Limited has announced that support for Windows XP will end on April 8, 2014, and there will be no more security updates or technical support for Windows XP Operating system. Phasing out of proprietary software may necessitate upgrading to a higher version / latest version which may call for an additional spending not only on the software but, may also be on the hardware. This can be prevented by going in for BOSS.

3. Some of the Salient Features of BOSS Linux OS are as follows:-

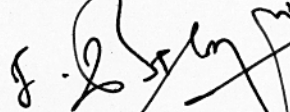
- a) BOSS has got LSB (Linux Standard Base) certification
- b) BOSS has been developed on par with Linux OS
- c) BOSS supports all Indian languages
- d) BOSS supports Bio-sensing devices, digital signatures
- e) BOSS provides certification for the peripheral devices, desktops, laptops and so on.
- f) BOSS has facility to customize for local environments.
- g) Customer support is easy since the development team is available locally and there are many modes of service support extended through call center, help desk etc.
- h) BOSS is free open source Software.
- i) The support cost for BOSS is very minimal compared to other Linux flavours.
- j) As the BOSS Linux is offered free of cost, the huge investment cost involved in purchasing closed source softwares may be avoided, which in turn translates into huge savings for the Government.

- k) BOSS Linux is an Open Source Software which can be modified according to specific needs.
- l) Open Source Software is almost free of virus. Hence, loss of information, damage of software and hardware, hacking, phishing etc. can be prevented. There is no need to spend on expensive Anti virus software.

4. I am to request you to consider installing BOSS Linux as one of the mandatory Operating Systems in Government Departments. The Director, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in his letter second cited, has recommended the installation of BOSS Linux in all Government Departments of Tamil Nadu.

5. I am also to request you to contact the Director, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Chennai-113 who will render necessary assistance in the installation of the BOSS Operating System in Government Departments across Tamil Nadu in co-ordination with Information Technology Department of Government of Tamil Nadu.

Yours faithfully,


for Secretary to Government
12/3/2014

Copy to:

The Director,
Centre for Development of
Advanced Computing (C-DAC),
Chennai- 600 113.