अलकेश कुमार शर्मा, आई.ए.एस. Alkesh Kumar Sharma, I.A.S. Secretary





इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय भारत सरकार Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) Government of India

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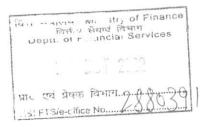
Dated: 18.10.2022

Dear Secretary,

With the increased digitization and online governance, cyber security has become integral and important part of the Governance. The hackers/crackers exploit weakness such as ignorance or non-adherence to security procedures, flaws in processes or vulnerabilities in technology (both hardware and software). The use of out-of-date operating systems and IT equipment must be discontinued as it makes the sensitive government IT system susceptible to cyber attacks. In this regard, Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) has observed the following:

- i. Some of the Ministries/Departments of Government of India have issued guidelines related to condemnation, scrapping & disposal of IT products / Equipments. One such guideline was issued by DoT (copy attached). This guideline is applicable for Servers, PCs, Dumb terminals, Printers, UPS, Laptop/note-book/tablet, Data communication equipment/LAN switches/router/data cables.
- ii. Every hardware OEM declares the lifespan (shelf life) of IT equipment. For operating systems also, respective OEMs declare end-of-life and end-of-support of such OS.
- iii. For software applications, OEMs releases either patches or the updated versions of their software.
- I would request you to kindly issue directions to all the offices and agencies under your Ministry/ Department regarding lifespan of IT equipments (hardware & software). will help in maintaining cyber risk-free environment in government Ministries/Departments.

With regards,



Yours sincerely.

(Alkesh Kumar Sharma)

To

Secretaries of all Central Government Ministries/Departments