Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No. 2006/C&IS/ Oth/Laptop/14 New Delhi 26-05-2008

The General Managers,
All Indian Railways & Production Units,
COFMOW/New Delhi,
RDSO/Lucknow,
CORE/Allahabad.

Sub: Purchase of Software
Ref: i. 2006/C&IS /Oth/Laptop/ 14 dated 20.09.2006.
ii. 2001/ F(S) 1/PW7 /2 dated 12.07.2006.
iii. 2007/RS(G)/ 779/1 dated 04.04.2008.

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Please refer to Boards letter (i) referred above. It was suggested to use "Open Office etc." , a free software for official use. Railways are further advised to use free software or freewares available for official use on PCs and laptops. In case procurement of priced software is unavoidable then the same may be justified on the basis of functional requirements. Whenever bulk/repeated purchases of software, especially office suite are being made the instructions contained in references (ii) and (iii) and other instructions on the subject issued by Board from time to time may be scrupulously adhered too and all competing products should be given equal chance. It is reiterated that as far as possible the use of free software / freewares / open source software should be encouraged.

This issues in consultation with Finance Dte. of Ministry of Railways.

(Chhatrasal Singh)
Director(C&IS)

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