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DoT clears distribution of 50 lakh tablet PCs in schools, colleges

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A note on the ambitious Aakash-2 project to be placed before the Cabinet soon

In a move that will give a big push to broadband penetration in the country, th (DoT) has cleared an ambitious plan to distribute 50-lakh tablet PCs (persona financial year (2012-13). A note containing the nitty-gritty of the ambitious Aa before the Cabinet soon.

"Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal, who is also in charge of the Human Resource I detailed meeting with all stakeholders... the Cabinet note is being finalised," sa distribute 50-lakh tablet PCs in schools and colleges across India in the next fi

The government wants to initially assemble the tablet PCs through its public s indigenise it to maintain cost-competitiveness.

The DoT has declared that the Centre for Development of Advanced Computir of the Department of Information Technology, will be the nodal agency for suc project. It will be assisted by the Indian Institute of Technology-Mumbai. The specifications, ensuring quality and testing the tablet PCs. The DoT has decide Electronics Ltd and ITI Ltd — for manufacturing and procuring the tablet PCs (around Rs.2,750 and Rs.3,500).

As the project cost is likely to be around Rs.1,700 crore, it has also been decide under the Ministry of Defence with factories around India. "The BEL is likely t feature-rich tablet PCs and take help from ITI Ltd, India's first PSU that manu the huge orders. It is has also been decided to source tablet PCs from other col the two PSUs fail to meet the orders," the official noted.

Mr. Sibal had unveiled the world's cheapest tablet PC Aakash last year that cos manufactured by Canadian firm Datawind in close association with IIT-Jodhp to distribute 1 lakh Aakash tablets to students in the first phase, quality issues to intervene. Moreover, Datawind also failed to meet its delivery commitment

Keywords: [Datawind](#), [Aakash-II](#), [tablet PC](#), [Kapil Sibal](#), [upgraded version](#)

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