

Of Open Source, Microsoft, India and Paraguay

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Created 20/10/2011 - 4:55pm

Submitted by srlinuxx on Thursday 20th of October 2011 04:55:05 PM Filed under [Microsoft](#) [1] [OSS](#) [2]

One of the recurrent recent themes of IT in the UK has been how moves to open source by local and central government have been stymied by Microsoft - the most famous example being the Newham Council saga. Of course, that's not a problem unique to the UK: it's a pattern repeated around the world, as some recent stories highlight.

Here, for example, is something similar in India's state of Tamil Nadu:

The Jaya government's IT arm - the Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) - has taken out a tender for the supply of 9,12,000 laptops to be delivered this year. Over the next five years, close to 7 million laptops produced at a cost of over Rs 10,200 crore [about \$1.3 billion] would be distributed. Jayalalithaa has sent a memorandum to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh asking for central funds to implement this scheme.

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[Microsoft OSS](#)

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