

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2474  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003  
MOU BETWEEN RAILTEL AND BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LTD.  
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the RailTel Corporation of India (RailTel) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for sharing bandwidth and other telecommunications infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details of the communication network proposed to be established with this agreement?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RailTel) relates to exploring new business opportunities to take advantage of the changing scenario in the country in telecommunication field. BSNL & RailTel have agreed to utilise their synergies, infrastructure and services for this purpose. There is no proposal, as such, to establish any new communication network. BSNL, however, may use RailTel's OFC infrastructure dropped at stations for providing rural telephony and continuous coverage of their CellOne mobile phones along the track. BSNL may also offer last mile and interconnection to RailTel for their various requirements including International Long Distance (ILD) & National Long Distance (NLD) operations.