

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1538  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003  
DESIGN,DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF ENGINES OF SKY BUS  
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

- (a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation has signed a technical cooperation agreement with a n Austrian Company for design, development and commissioning of the engines for the Sky Bus;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the company with which such an agreement has been signed;
- (c) the areas to be covered by the Sky Bus project;
- (d) whether the Sky Bus project is different from other forms of metro mass transports; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ( SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL )

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1538 BY SHRI NARESH PUGLIA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.12.2003 REGARDING DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF ENGINES OF SKY BUS

(a): Yes, Sir. Technology for 3 phase AC asynchronous motors and interfacing with Konkan Railway's Anti Collision Device (ACD) for driving the same will be jointly developed.

(b): The Austrian Company will be involved in developing the entire three phase AC traction system with electronic controls suitable to operate in Sky Bus Guideway and also will reveal the interface requirement to match with Konkan Railway's Anti Collision Devices. The name and address of the above firm with whom Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL) has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is:

ELIN EGB Traction GmbH,

Cumberlandstraße, 32-34,

A-1141, Wein Austria

(c): While proposals have been submitted for implementing Sky Bus Metro in 15 cities in India and 7 cities abroad, the technology is still to be proved.

(d)&(e): Sky Bus System is more cost effective than other urban mass transit transportation systems. Sky Bus follows the Road alignment. It is an elevated system of mass transport. The elevated metro at present is found to be costing between Rs.100 crores to Rs.120 crores per route km. In comparison, for the same level of performance, the Sky Bus Metro costs between Rs. 45 crores to Rs. 50 crores per km. Sky Bus does not require land at most of the occasion since it follows roads and hence can be constructed within 2 to 3 years in any city.