

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1606
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
FUNDING FOR SKY BUS PROJECTS
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways is awaiting the clearance of M/o Urban Development for Central funding for launching Sky Bus Projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether technology pioneered by Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) in this regard has been sanctioned by RDSO;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of proposals received so far from various cities to provide sky bus service and necessary funds required and time to be taken to complete such projects?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) to (e): Interest has been expressed by 15 cities in India and 7 cities abroad for this technology. The funding and time shall be decided after the technology is proved. Sky Bus System is claimed to be 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 technology has not been sanctioned/evaluated by RDSO. 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 route 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.