

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1464  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003  
COMMUNICATION NETWORK TO FLASH ACCIDENT RELATING NEWS  
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**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is no communication network with railways to report immediately the accident and other untoward incidents relating to railways;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Railways wholly depend on the electronic media to know about the accidents etc; and
- (d) if so, the remedial measures taken by the railways to have its own communication network to flash the news and information relating to railways accidents, etc ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Railways have an extensive communication network, which is used for train operations, control, safety and administrative functions. The same network is used for reporting of accidents and other untoward incidents, as and when occurring, on the Railways. However, the existing communication network does not provide real-time on-line communication from trains running between the stations to Control Rooms. On busy sections, however, Very High Frequency (VHF) sets have been provided to be used by train crews and Station Masters to communicate during emergent situations.

(c): No, Sir.

(c): Railways are continually upgrading their communication network to facilitate Operation and Train Control activities. Satellite phones, Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) exchanges, mobilephones and other allied equipments are being added to set up to cater for faster mode of communication, from the site of accident.