

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1406

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005

CYBER CAFES AT RAILWAY STATIONS

Moghe Shri Krishna Murari;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Singh Baba Shri K.C.

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

- (a) whether the government has cleared the scheme of the RaiITel to set up cyber cafes at railway stations as reported in the `Dainik Jagaran` dated September 14, 2005;
- (b) if so, the names of railway stations identified under the scheme;
- (c) whether the proposed cyber cafes are to be given to the private contractors;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be started and completed;
- (f) the funds estimated to be spent thereon; and
- (g) the length of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) laid and commissioned till date along with its estimated cost?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Yes, Sir. RaiITel has been authorised to plan cyber cafÃ©, on franchise basis at important stations only, in a phased manner.
- (b): The names of 82 railways stations identified under the scheme are given in statement attached.
- (c) & (d): The establishment of cyber cafÃ© at railway stations shall be through engagement of franchisee through open tender system on revenue share basis.  
  
Offers have already been invited and tenders are under finalization. The franchisees would invest on building up of the infrastructure, RaiITel/Ministry of Railways would provide space/land area only at convenient places at the railway stations with internet bandwidth of RaiITel.
- (e): One such cyber cafÃ© is already in operation at New Delhi and further cyber cafes are being planned on about 51 stations during the current financial year.
- (f): No additional expenditure from railway's side is involved since Railway will only provide space and bandwidth and the franchisee has to provide all necessary infrastructure.
- (g): Up to September 2005, a total of 27,716 Route Kilometers (RKMs) of Optic Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid, out of which OFC communication has been commissioned over 23,516 RKMs. The present cost of laying of OFC is Rs. 2 lakh per Kilometer approximately.