

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
SKY BUS METRO
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given any approval to Sky Bus Metro developed by the Konkan Railway;
- (b) if so, the present status of the project;
- (c) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to start; and
- (d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the said project?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir. The prototype system is still under technical development by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL). An Expert Committee appointed by Ministry of Urban Development to evaluate the Sky Bus system developed by KRCL to examine its feasibility and techno-economic aspects has recommended continuing trials to establish this technology on a firm footing. Technical safety certification can be issued after carrying out recommendations of Expert Committee and necessary movement trials.

(b) to (d): Does not arise. However, based on the offer of Government of Andhra Pradesh for development of Sky Bus system on 'Build Own Transfer' (BOT) basis, Ministry of Urban Development has advised Government of Andhra Pradesh to come up with legislation for operation and maintenance including the mechanism for safety certification. Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has also been advised that negotiations with the private BOT operators may be held with them to first establish the safety of the system before allowing any commercial operation. The project will start after these issues are resolved by Government of Andhra Pradesh and the project cost shall accordingly be estimated.