

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2345

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007

HIGH SPEED TRAINS AGREEMENT WITH ITALIAN RAILWAYS

Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Pathak Shri Brajesh;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently signed an agreement for co-operation with a number of countries and especially with the Italian Railways reported in "Dainik Jagran" dated 16th February, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details in regard to the agreements signed between India and various other countries for the development of Railways during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the total funds required for operating high speed trains; and

(e) the effective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2345 BY SHRI HEMMAL MURMU, SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE, SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK, SHRI MOHD. TAHIR AND SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.03.2007 REGARDING HIGH SPEED TRAINS AGREEMENT WITH ITALIAN RAILWAYS.

(a) to (c): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 3.7.2006 between the Indian Railways and Ferrovie Dello Stato (Italian Railways) to promote cooperation in rail sector between the two countries. Similar agreements have been signed with German Railways, Russian Railways, South African Railways and French Railways during the last three years.

(d) & (e): High Speed Trains running at speeds above 250 Kmph require separate infrastructure including track, signalling, rolling stock, traction etc. and cannot be run on the existing network of Indian Railways. Construction of Dedicated High Speed Corridors require high capital investment ranging from Rs. 50 Crores per kilometre to above Rs. 200 Crores per kilometre. The Ministry of Railways has decided to undertake the pre-feasibility studies for construction of high speed corridors covering one route in each region of the country, namely, East, West, North and South.