

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:37
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
. MODERNISATION OF RAIL TELECOM NETWORK
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

:-

- (a) whether the Government have cancelled the contracts awarded to RITES and IRCON for modernisation of rail telecom network;
- (b) whether the Government have decided to award this contract to the private companies;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken? Answer

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

a) IRCON & RITES were not awarded any contract for modernisation of rail telecom network. However, agreements were signed with IRCON and RITES for establishing optical fibre cable on Delhi-Jaipur- Ahmedabad-Mumbai and Mumbai-Pune-Chennai routes respectively. Since the scheme covered only these two railway routes, it is being broadbased to cover more railway routes serving urban, rural and hilly areas, villages etc. with a view to achieve overall development of all regions. b) No, Sir c) Does not arise d) A comprehensive scheme to facilitate provision of telecom infrastructure both for urban as well as rural & hilly areas served by the railways is under formulation. Efforts are being made to finalise and implement the same early.