

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6702

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2003

SATELLITE TELEPHONE FACILITY IN RAILWAYS

CHINMAYANAND;RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI;Y.G. MAHAJAN

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

- (a) whether all the zonal and divisional headquarters of railways have been equipped with satellite phones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the crew members of all trains have been provided with walkie-talkie to make contact with stations which have been provided with 25 W VHF on all important zones;
- (d) whether these telecom safety aids are to be extended all over the railways;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. All Zonal and Divisional Railway Headquarters, have been provided with one satellite phone each except South Central Railway Headquarter, its 3 Divisions and newly formed Zones & Divisions, procurement action for which has already been initiated.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Walkie-Talkie sets have been provided to Drivers & Guards of all trains. 25 W VHF sets have been provided on all Broad Gauge (BG) doubleline & multiple line sections. Provision of 25 W VHF sets on BG Single line, Meter Gauge (MG) Double & Single line and Mixed 2-line sections is under consideration.

Ministry of Railways have also issued directives for provision of one additional satellite telephone on each Zonal & Divisional Railway Headquarters of Indian Railways.

(f): Expenditure likely to be incurred for provision of 25 W VHF sets on BG Single line, MG Double & Single line & Mixed 2-line sections, not yet provided with these sets, will be approximately Rs. 900 lacs and that for additional satellite phones on Zonal & Divisional Railway Headquarters is approximately Rs. 65 lacs.