

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1719
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001
RAIL LINK BETWEEN WESTERN GHAT AND HINTERLAND
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have identified the missing railway links between the Western Ghats and Hinterland;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have conducted a survey for a new broad gauge line from Kolhapur to Ratnagiri via Talwade during 1998 for providing a link between the Konkan Railway alignment and the Hinterland;
- (d) if so, the result of the said survey; and
- (e) the present position of the said line?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Survey for construction of new lines from Dahanu Road to Nasik Road and Chinchwad to Roha are in progress. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey reports become available.
- (c) to (e): A survey for a new BG line between Kolhapur and Ratnagiri has been completed recently. The results of the survey have revealed cost of the 211.45 kms long line as Rs.1273.82 crores with a negative rate of return i.e. (-)7.92%. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of the line coupled with the severe resource constraints, it has not been found possible to consider taking up the project for the present.