

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1400
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
LINK OF ASIAN MARKET BY RAIL FREIGHT CORRIDOR
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the UIC the World- wide association for international railway co-operation intends to link Asian market by rail freight corridors as reported in the 'Times of India' dated October 26, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any proposal in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): No, Sir. Union Internationale Des Chemins De Fer (UIC) is a voluntary body of Rail companies/organizations and can only suggest projects for Railway growth.

(c): Does not arise. Ministry of External Affairs under the aegis of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation has held discussions on providing India-Myanmar Rail Link. Government of India is also supporting the United Nations-Economic and Social Commission for Asia & Pacific (UN-ESCAP) initiative of Trans-Asian Railway.