

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:113

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013

REAL TIME TRAIN INFORMATION SYSTEM

Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Real-Time Train Information System (RTIS) on Satellite Imaging for Rail Navigation (SIMRAN) has been launched by the Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the funds spent for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Railways have decided installation of sophisticated communication system in place of the existing walkie-talkie system for unhindered contact between the driver and ground staff;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure involved therein; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Railways for speedy modernisation of Indian Railways?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.113 BY SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA & SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 12.12.2013 REGARDING REAL-TIME TRAIN INFORMATION SYSTEM.

(a): No, Madam. Earlier a pilot project called Satellite Imaging for Rail Navigation (SIMRAN), based on Global Positioning System (GPS) was undertaken jointly by Research Design & Standards Organisation (RDSO)/Lucknow and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) /Kanpur. Since the pilot project was not having facilities like Auto Control Charting and locomotive performance checking, a new project of Real-time Train Information System (RTIS) has been undertaken by Indian Railways based on satellite imaging and communication. This system is proposed to be launched as and when Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) allots bandwidth from the proposed new satellite to be launched in lieu of INSAT-3C.

(b): In the pilot project of SIMRAN, an expenditure to the tune of ₹ 3.51 Crores was incurred in the project, out of which ₹ 2.11 Crores was provided by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and ₹ 1.4 Crores was provided by Ministry of Railways. No expenditure has been incurred on Real-time Train Information system as the project has not been launched.

(c): Yes, Madam. As per the recommendations of the High level Safety Review Committee (HSRC), Railways has plans to introduce Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) system based on Global System For Mobile Communication – Railway ( GSM-R technology) in all 'A','B' & 'C' routes (19000 Route kilometres approx.) of the Indian Railway network. This is a secured means of unhindered communication between the Driver, Guard, Ground staff/Control Office with Save Our Souls (SOS) facility so that any unusual occurrence can be communicated immediately and corrective action taken. This also has facility for Voice logging and Short Message Service (SMS) which can be used for Caution Orders / exchange of Private Numbers. Introduction of GSM-R on Indian Railway network will render the Walkie-Talkie sets redundant.

(d): Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) system has been commissioned in 2074 Route Kilometres and work is in progress in 2426 Route Kilometres. To complete the work in balance 14500 Route Kilometres (approx), funds to the tune of ₹ 1100 crores approximately will be required.

(e): Modernisation and technical up gradation on the Railways is an ongoing process. Railways have already initiated action for elimination of level crossing, modernisation of rolling stock, permanent way and signalling and telecommunication systems.