GOVERNMENT OF INDIA URBAN DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:316 ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015 AUDIT OF METRO CORRIDOR Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the operator of Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar (Mumbai Metro-1) has requested revision of fares and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether to ascertain the reasonableness and extent of increase Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has appointed a Consultant;
- (c) if so, the observation of the Consultant on fare revision;
- (d) whether MMRDA has requested the Ministry for audit of Mumbai Metro-1; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a): The operator of Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar (Mumbai Metro-1) i.e. Mumbai Metro One Private Limited (MMOPL) has not requested Central Government for revision of fares of Mumbai Metro Line-1. However, Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has informed that MMOPL vide letter dated 06/03/2013, has requested Government of Maharashtra (GoM) to accord its approval for increase of fare by at least 150% over and above the indexed fare of the year 2012-13.
- (b) & (c): MMRDA has informed that they had appointed M/s Louis Berger Consulting Private Limited (LBC) for scrutiny of the proposal of MMOPL for increase in the Project cost and resulting demand for Fare increase. They have further informed that M/s LBC in its report has made the following observations:
- (i) Only Rs.43 crore increase in cost is admissible;
- (ii) There is no scope for increase in cost except as stipulated in Concession Agreement @ 11% every fourth year to be worked out with base fares corresponding to the financial year 2003-04; and
- (iii) Matter is sub-judice at present; hence, it may not be prudent to give definite opinion at that juncture.
- (d)& (e): Yes, Madam. MMRDA has requested Central Government for audit of accounts of MMOPL by Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG). Central Government has conveyed to MMRDA that the matter was taken up with C&AG and the office of C&AG vide letter dated 10/10/2014 has informed that they are conducting the audit of Metro rail projects which are funded by Government of India and State Government, as per the audit plan of their Department.