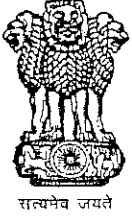


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VINAY MITTAL

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एवंपदेन प्रमुख सचिव, भारत सरकार  
रेल मंत्रालय

नई दिल्ली-110 001

CHAIRMAN, RAILWAY BOARD

&amp;

EX-OFFICIO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

NEW DELHI-110001

6 Feb 2, 2012

DO No.2011/Tele/15(10)/2

Dear Shri Sharma,

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd is a wholly owned company under the Ministry of Railways. Over the past couple of years, RailTel has emerged as a major player in the OFC based network service provider segment. It owns one of the largest Optical/Fiber based networks in the country which is serving the needs of not only the Telecom service providers and Corporate Sector but also of government sectors including Defence.

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd has also played a vital role in the creation of National Knowledge Network to link and integrate the country's important R&D and academic institutions which also include some DRDO labs. Similarly, based on the presence and reach of RailTel's network, it has been entrusted with the job of creating the National Optical Fiber Network through a separate SPV by the name of 'Rajiv Gandhi National Information Super Highway' (RAJNISH) along with BSNL and PGCIL.

Recently, defence forces have started vacating radio spectrums and in lieu, a dedicated 'Network for Spectrum' was to be created, considering its importance for operational and strategic requirements of Army. I have asked officials of RailTel to study and discuss with Signal Corps Officers of Army as to how RailTel can help in the creation of NFS project. I feel that by inducting RailTel, the professional and innovative approach followed by this PSU may be utilized for faster and quality execution of the project. It is pertinent to mention that recently a similar strategy resulted in successful implementation of the 'National Knowledge Network' by the NIC.

Further, till the time the entire NFS project is created, the existing Optical Fiber Cable Network of RailTel can be utilized to create a dedicated alternative Core NFS to take care of emerging needs of the Defence Forces.

While I have directed officials of RailTel to discuss with Signal Corps Officers of the Army for taking the aforesaid proposal forward, you are requested to advise the concerned functionaries to facilitate this endeavour.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Vinay Mittal)

Shri S.K.Sharma  
Defence Secretary  
Government of India  
South Block  
New Delhi

Handwritten notes: c/c, श्री २१११ जाकि, 6/2/12

