

We Hear From

Readers are invited to express their views not only on matters published in this medium but also on their independent thoughts published in other science-related topics. Do not allow your ideas to die away. What appears to be naive or bizarre to you may ignite others' thought process and become useful.

J P Chaudhuri

A German Rail Failed

On Monday 17 Jan this year a railway passenger wagon with Diesel-Drive remained stuck near Rosenheim in Bavaria and was waiting for a start help by another diesel locomotive (Süddeutsche Zeitung and Münchner Merkur, 21/22 Feb 2014). Impatient of waiting the passengers pushed the wagon and the driver could start and could call in the next station. It is a unique incidence in the history of German Rails. Since the privatization of the rails in Germany series of mishaps and failures are being recorded. It is not only shameful; it also discredits Germany, almost a number one country in the world in sustained technological performance. Many citizens therefore wish that the rail should come back to the people.

Peoples rail may also be a source to improve the Governmental treasury. Being private it will feed the

few rich investors who become multi millionaires while millions of the people faces dire poverty. Can the economists find a balance?

In USA railways are not public property. They run privately and are generally in a very bad shape. During the Katrrin crisis in Louisiana the transport experts deplored the absence of railway transport very much, because with trains the city could have been evacuated properly and the catastrophe could have been avoided.

The experts of USA commented at that time that the railways require high investment, what only a governmental support may keep up with. This is again a great point against privatization of such basic national amenities.

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Sanjay Goswami

Why Mobile Phone is dangerous for health

Cell phones send signals to nearby towers via radio frequency waves, a form of energy similar to FM radio waves and microwaves. But the radiation produced by cellphones cannot directly damage DNA and differs from stronger types of radiation like X-rays or ultraviolet light. cellphone users are considering what they can do to protect themselves - but experts seem to be downplaying the risk.

Your mobile phone is a radio transmitter and receiver. It is designed and manufactured not to exceed the limits for exposure to radio frequency (RF)

energy defined by the international standards. The exposure recommendations for mobile phones use a measurement unit known as the Specific Absorption Rate (SAR). These recommendations have been established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) that forecast a substantial safety margin for assuring the protection of all persons, regardless of age and health.

The SAR limit recommended by the ICNIRP for the mobile phones used by the general public is 2.0W/
