

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1900**  
**ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023**

**CARTEL OF APPROVED SUPPLIERS IN RAILWAYS**

1900 # SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cartel related cases concerning approved suppliers forwarded by the Railways to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for action and the number of cases in which action has been taken by the CCI; and
- (b) the action taken by the Railways against suppliers found guilty by CCI and the number of cases still pending for action?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a): The number of suspected cartel related cases involving approved suppliers forwarded by the Railways to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) for investigation and decision is eleven (11) and the number of cases in which action has been taken as a result of investigation by CCI is six (06).

(b): In one (01) case, CCI concluded the cartel formation by the suppliers. Supplier firms filed an appeal to Competition Appellate Tribunal (COMPAT) which gave its decision against the order of CCI. Railways along with CCI has filed an appeal in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the case is subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

In two (02) other cases, CCI had issued caution to the suppliers to cease such cartel behaviour and desist from indulging in similar behaviour in future. As such, no further action by Railways was required.

In another three (03) cases, no penalty was imposed by CCI in view of the then prevailing economic situations arising due to the out-break of global pandemic (Covid-19) and the various measures undertaken by the Government of India to provide liquidity to support credit needs of viable Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to help them withstand the impact of current shock. As such, no further action by Railways was required.

Presently, no case is pending for action by Railways against suppliers found guilty by CCI.

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