

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2487**  
**ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025**

**CIRCULAR REGARDING CONSUMPTION OF SOFT DRINKS BY TRAIN  
ENGINE DRIVERS**

2487. SHRI VAIKO:  
SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Southern Railway authorities have issued any circular directing train engine drivers not to consume soft drinks, fruits, cough syrup, coconut tender water while coming to work and during work, which is unethical and inhuman during summer, when the engine cabin is so hot, and the running staff feeling thirsty;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any alternative drinks will be provided by the Railways to engine drivers during the summer season; and
- (d) if not, will they withdraw the circular?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) There is no restriction of consumption of non-alcoholic beverages by the Loco Pilots.

The step taken by Southern Railway for preventing consumption of certain items has already been amended.

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