

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1519
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2021**

MECHANISED BOOT LAUNDRIES

1519. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken some measures to resolve the issue of payments in contracts of mechanized BOOT laundries that have been raised in time of Covid-19 pandemic period;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether South East Central Railway (SECR) zone has made payments to mechanized BOOT laundries as per the minimum assured load clause of their Contract Agreement during lockdown period;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Ministry of Railways has received any representations from Public representatives in this regard and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. In view of prevailing Covid-19 pandemic, linen sets are presently not being provided in AC coaches to prevent spread of

Corona virus. Some measures taken to resolve the issue of payments in contracts of mechanized BOOT laundries that have been raised in time of Covid-19 pandemic period are as follows:

Directions were issued to enable payment to contract and outsourced staff / workers affected due to lockdown situation upto May 2020.

Zonal Railways were further directed to deal with each existing contract on its merits, keeping in view its terms and conditions including relevant General Conditions of Contracts (GCC), with concurrence of associate finance, taking view of associated legal branch, as required.

(c) & (d) Payment has been done at two depots of SECR (Bilaspur and Durg), as per advise of divisional legal and finance wings for short term during the lock down period till July 2020 end as per assured off take clause provided in the special conditions of contract. However, no payment has been done to the contractor from August 2020 onwards. A case has been filed by the contractor in the High Court / Bilaspur for the payment issue. The matter is sub judice at present.

(e) Representations from some Hon'ble Members of Parliament have been received in this regard.
