

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1829
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021**

COMMISSION VENDORS

**†1829. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI LALLU SINGH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any step is being taken by the Government to improve the condition of the commission vendors;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received any demand letter/ suggestion from Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and the Railway Commission Vendors Association;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon by the Government;**
- (d) the facilities provided by the railway administration to the licensee vendors providing catering services at railway stations during COVID;**
- (e) whether any demand letter has been received by the Government from All India Railway Catering Licensees Welfare Association;**
- (f) if so, the details of the demands made therein and the action taken thereon by the Government; and**
- (g) the concrete steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the licensee vendors?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS
& INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways have issued instructions to absorb the erstwhile commission vendors meeting the eligibility conditions in the regular service of Railways.

(b) and (c): A representation from Chhattisgarh Commission Vendors Association was received in the Ministry. However, the demands in the representation were related to licensee vendors and not commission vendors.

(d) For licensee vendors, the following Covid related relief measures have been implemented by Railway Administration:

(i) The non-operational period of all catering and vending contracts to be treated as 'dies non' under Force Majeure clause and contract period to be extended accordingly.

(ii) Review of license fee of all catering and vending stalls taking into consideration the resumption of volume of passenger traffic in respect of individual stations/ platforms has been considered.

(iii) Reduction in the Performance Security from the existing 10% to 3% for all catering /vending contracts.

(e) and (f): The demands /suggestions have been received from Akhil Bhartiya Railway Khanpan Licensees Welfare Association which include relief to deal with Covid related hardship, permission for sale of packed items on Fruit/ Juice stalls, platform vending permission, use of cooking gas on platforms and supply of electricity on subsidized rates. The suggestions have been examined on merits and action taken accordingly.

(g) In addition to the COVID related reliefs as mentioned at (d) above, the other steps taken by the Railways include permission for sale of packed items on Fruit/ Juice stalls and grant of platform vending permission to the static units at stations.