

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2226

TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025

PROBLEMS OF SMALL CATERING LICENSEES

†2226. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problem of small catering licensees working on railway platforms;

(b) if so, the number of times IRCTC has increased the prices of items like tea-pakoda meal etc, being sold by the licensees on railway platforms since 2012;

(c) whether the rates of items being sold by small catering licensees on platforms of railway stations were fixed by the Railway Board in the year, 2012;

(d) if so, the reasons for the rates of food-items like tea, coffee, puri, pakoda etc. not being increased by the Railway Board/Zonal Railways particularly in the Northern Railway;

(e) the steps taken to address the problems of small catering licensees and increase the prices of items being sold by them; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to formulate a uniform policy and do away with the discriminatory policy ?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (f): Representations from small catering licensees and their associations have been received by Railways from time to time. Their concerns are examined on merit and action is taken accordingly.

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The rates of tea/coffee were revised vide Commercial Circular No. 53 of 2018 and rates of other standard items were revised vide Commercial Circular No. 64 of 2019. Further, revision of rates of other a-la-carte items is undertaken by Zonal Railways and IRCTC under the delegation given to them in Catering Policy 2017.
