

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2770
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.05.2016**

CATERING POLICY 2010

2770. SHRI RAJESH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Akhil Bhartiya Railway Khan Pan Licensees Welfare Association has given suggestions/certain demands after issuance of Catering Policy 2010 and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Ministry of Railways in this regard, till date;

(b) whether certain suggestions/ demands have been received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament (MPs) for implementation of the policy 2010 and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has received demands/suggestions from them for facilitating livelihood to the licensees small catering/vending units and instructions issued by Ministry of Railways in this regard;

(d) whether Catering Policy 2010 is applicable to all the licensees of railway selling eatables on railway platform and different policy circulars have been made on licensees selling eatables through static units; and

(e) whether under present scenario, changes in Catering Policy 2010 is being made on the new Catering Policy being made by Ministry of Railways and if so, any catering associations/catering welfare associations' suggestions were invited in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c): Hon'ble Members of Parliament, other dignitaries and associations including Akhil Bhartiya Railway Khan Pan Licensees Welfare Association give suggestions regularly to this Ministry regarding the problems faced by the rail users and upgradation of services.

Contd..2/.

The representations/suggestions received include those for allowing renewal of licenses pertaining to General Minor Units (GMUs) and Special Minor Units (SMUs) which were allotted prior to Catering Policy 2010, scrapping of tender-based system for allotment of GMUs and problems of licencees and small catering/vending units. These representations/suggestions are given priority and are replied promptly by the appropriate level after taking corrective action, if any, in accordance with the extant policies to improve the services over Indian Railways.

Further, with a view to protect the Right of Livelihood of the small vendors, Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide its judgement delivered on 29.01.2016 has directed Railways that only those licensees may be eligible for renewal of their licenses who can declare on affidavit that they do not have the license of more than one shop or kiosk in their name or benami license at railway stations.

(d): Catering services are provided to passengers departmentally or by private licencees through both static and mobile units in accordance with the provisions of Catering Policy 2010 as amended from time to time.

(e): As announced in Rail Budget 2016-17, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) would begin to manage catering services in a phased manner. It has also been decided that IRCTC would unbundle catering services by creating a distinction between food preparation and food distribution.

Suggestions received from stakeholders including associations are considered while framing policy.