

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:221  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2003  
PACKAGING AND MARKETING OF RAILNEER  
BHASKAR RAO PATIL;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways have started packaging and marketing of 'Railneer';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the samples of 'Railneer' have been cleared by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);
- (d) whether the Railways have seen the reports published in the newspapers about the detection of extremely harmful pesticides in the BIS certified popular brands of bottled water being sold in Delhi and elsewhere;
- (e) the steps being taken by the Railways with regard to food items which are being prepared in their base kitchens to maintain quality and hygienic conditions;
- (f) whether the Railways propose to take any action against Zonal Catering Managers who are not preventing purchase and sale of bottled water in trains and at platforms; and
- (g) the measures taken by the Railways to ensure supply of clean and safe drinking water to its passengers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 221 BY T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI AND SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.03.2003 REGARDING PACKAGING AND MARKETING OF RAILNEER.

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Not so far. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has carried out inspections and have collected water samples for testing at their end.

(d): Yes, Sir.

(e): Indian Railways have taken steps to ensure good quality of food supplied by them on trains from base kitchens and at railway stations. Some of these include use of quality raw material and branded products, setting standards of hygiene and cleanliness, training of staff, frequent surprise checks and inspections etc. Moreover, with a view to upgrade and professionalise catering services on trains as well as at railway stations, Ministry of Railways have set up the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation.

(f): Only BIS approved packaged drinking water are supplied in the trains and at platforms on the railways.

(g): As per extant policy packaged drinking water which conforms to specifications from Bureau of Indian Standards' is supplied to passengers. Inspections are undertaken and quality control is made by sample checks. In instances of sample analysis found not conforming to specifications, action is taken.