

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:231

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2004

RESERVATION IN ALLOTMENT OF CATERING CONTRACT AT RAILWAY STATION

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Modi Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for classification of railway stations in respect of awarding railway catering contract ;
- (b) whether the Government has decided to provide reservation for SCs/STs/OBC`s and Minorities in stations of second category, but not for those in the first category ;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to provide reservation to said categories at stations of first category ;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to award catering contracts at block level so that people of backward communities get the proper benefit of reservation ; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 231 ASKED BY SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI AND SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR, TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.12.2004 REGARDING RESERVATION IN ALLOTMENT OF CATERING CONTRACT AT RAILWAY STATION.

(a): Criteria for classification of Railway stations in respect of awarding railway catering contract is mainly based on annual earning of the concerned stations as described below :

Annual Passenger Earning Category of Station

More than Rs. 6 Crore	`A`
Rs.3 crore and upto to Rs.6 Crore	`B`
Suburban Stations except Categories `A` & `B` stations	`C`
Between Rs.1 crore - Rs.3 Crore	`D`
All stations other than Category `A`, `B`, `C`, `D` & `F`	`E`
All Flag/Halt Stations	`F`

(b): Government has decided in new Catering Policy 2004, to provide enhanced reservation of 49.5% for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes, Minorities, women including war widows and Railway employee`s widows and physically / mentally handicapped persons, against 25% in earlier Policy of 2000 in catering units at `D`, `E` and `F` categories of stations, which are very large in number (approx. 7100), but there is no reservation for above in licences of small units at `A`, `B` & `C` categories of stations, which are only 935 in number. Further there is no reservation in licences of Major Catering units.

(c): To keep a balance between the drive to increase revenue to Railways and social obligations it was decided to increase reservation from 25% to 49.5% in catering units at `D`, `E` & `F` categories of stations only and no reservation was provided in small

catering units at `A`, `B` & `C` categories of stations and all major catering units.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. Provision of reservation to said categories in the licence of small catering units at `A`, `B` and `C` categories of stations is under examination.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.