

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1546
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2004
EVICTION OF RAILWAY HAWKERS
Chatterjee Shri Santasri

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Railway hawkers are prevented from carrying their normal activities by the authorities ;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation from the MPs and concerned trade unions in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the actions taken thereon ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) and (b) Unauthorised hawking in the railway premises and on trains is not permissible and is a punishable offence under Section 144 of the Railways Act, 1989 and Railways (Second amendment) Act 2003. As such unauthorised hawkers are liable for prosecution by Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police. Their presence causes inconvenience to the travelling passengers. Regular checks are conducted to apprehend the unauthorised hawkers to enable passengers to have free movement on railway platforms and comfortable journey.

(c) and (d) Certain representations for the issuance of licences and identity cards to sell foodstuffs have been received which have been examined and replied. No hawking / vending is permitted on running trains by unauthorised hawkers except in long distance trains in which case these services are provided by the pantry car staff managed either departmentally or through the contractors