

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1298
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010
CATERING SERVICES IN TRAINS
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are contemplating for attaching Pantry Car in all Superfast Mail/Express trains and introducing Cell Kitchen Concept;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Railways have initiated for the welfare of helpers and vendors who have been in catering services since many years?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) and (b): Pantry car services on major long distance Mail/Express trains are a part of the various services offered to the passengers on Indian Railways. The decision to attach pantry cars on trains is based on various considerations such as availability of rolling stock, the timings, operational feasibility and commercial justification etc. Cell Kitchens are established on the similar lines of Base Kitchens and provide prepared food for supply to pantry cars in trains as well as stalls in station premises. As on Nov, 2009, 17 numbers of Cell Kitchens are functioning at Nizamuddin, Arakkonam, Tirupati, Gudur, New Tinsukia, Guntur, Dindigal, Cuddappah, Ongole, Rajamudry, Kottayam, Mathura, Guntakal, Delhi, Katpadi, Erode, Bhusawal.

(c): The commission bearers and vendors of the erstwhile departmental catering units are being absorbed progressively in the Railways as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction.