

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:593
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012
QUALITY OF WATER IN RAILWAY STATIONS
Abdulrahman Shri ;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism in place to ensure that food and other eatables available at the railway stations and trains, meet the requisite hygienic levels and standards;
- (b) whether drinking water samples have been picked up at the railway stations to assess its quality and for testing;
- (c) if so, the details of the railway stations where the prescribed standard of drinking water were not met; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Railways to provide safe drinking water in all the railway stations in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 593 BY SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN AND SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.05.2012 REGARDING QUALITY OF WATER IN RAILWAY STATIONS.

(a): It is a continuous endeavour by the Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to Railway passengers. Accordingly, a New Catering Policy, 2010 has been introduced on 21.07.2010 with a mandate for effective quality assurance programme, wherein ISO-22000 (International Organization for Standardization) Standards and relevant international standards in vogue are to be progressively implemented for major contracts/units. Further, Standard Bid Documents (SBD) have been designed for award of tenders for various catering activities with stringent eligibility criteria so as to ensure quality and hygiene. Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism put in place by the Zonal Railways by deploying railway personnel, who check quality and hygiene and take corrective actions.

(b): Yes, Madam.

(c): Over 8241 Railway station on Indian Railways, 64172 and 920670 water samples were tested for bacteriological and residual chlorine test respectively during the year 2011. Out of this, 6322 (9.85%) samples of bacteriological test and 100025 (10.86%) samples of residual chlorine test were found unsatisfactory. Zone wise details of sample tested and found unsatisfactory are appended.

(d): Whenever, as a result of quality check, any sample is found unsatisfactory, appropriate actions such as additional chlorination and rectification/treatment of source of contamination are taken.

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 593 BY SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN AND SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.05.2012 REGARDING QUALITY OF WATER IN RAILWAY STATIONS

(c): The details of water samples under quality control chlorine are as under given annexure.