

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4218
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
CATERING IN TRAINS
Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any proposal to start catering facilities in all weekly/bi-weekly/regular trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways have carried out any survey in this regard;
- (d) if so, outcome of the said survey; and
- (e) the corrective measures that have been taken to improve such facilities for relief to the common man particularly women and senior citizens?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Catering services are provided in all weekly/bi-weekly and regular trains through pantry cars and in cases where trains are not provided with pantry car, the catering services are provided through Train Side Vending (TSV) or through static catering units at en-route stations. At present there are 302 pantry cars and 112 Train Side Vending contracts which provide catering service in trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto express trains.

(e): A new Catering Policy, 2010 has been introduced, which has an all inclusive approach wherein from the least advantaged passenger to the relatively affluent are provided catering services in a socially responsible manner. The Policy emphasises on provision of quality and hygienic food at economic price. A uniform tariff and menu has been notified by the Ministry of Railway for meals for items like Standard meals, Breakfast, Tea/Coffee. Jan-Ahaar outlets have been set up for sale of Janta Meals and low cost affordable regional cuisine. 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 action in a time bound manner through regular, surprise and periodical inspections.