

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2154  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012  
ALLOTMENT OF STALLS IN RAILWAY STATIONS  
Lingam Shri P.;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient features of the New Catering Policy,2010;
- (b) whether the Railways have received any suggestions for change in the said policy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Railways thereon;
- (d) the details of procedure/policy laid down by the Railways for the allotment of the Curio/Miscellaneous Article Stall at railway station platforms and their management; and
- (e) whether the Curio/Miscellaneous article stall contract can be shifted from one railway station to other railway station, if so, the details thereof and the manner the same is effected by the Railways?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) The New Catering Policy, 2010 issued on 21.07.2010 seeks to bring improvements by shifting the task of monitoring quality of service from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to the Zonal Railways and attempts to leverage Zonal Railways' vast and elaborate all-India network in order to effect a thorough supervision and control over catering activities. The policy acknowledges catering as a passenger service with emphasis on quality, hygiene with economic price.

Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism to 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. Emphasis has been placed to ensure the availability of quality food at affordable rate for all classes of passengers by providing Janta food and Janahaar (economy combo-meals) by means of Refreshment Rooms, Stand alone outlets and the vending stalls. Ceiling limit of holding has been redefined and made stringent to avoid monopoly. System of fixing license fee has been rationalized. Tenure and renewal of General Minor catering units has been streamlined.

(b) and (c): Yes, Madam. Few suggestions have been received from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament for making changes in the Catering Policy, 2010 for example permission for cooking on platforms, transfer of licence in case of death for General Minor Units(GMUs) Licensee. Curtailment of ceiling limits etc.. In view of suggestions received, certain modifications like permission for restricted cooking on platforms; grant of renewal of license to the legal heir of GMUs for both general and reserved category etc. have been incorporated in the New Catering Policy,2010.

(d): As per new Miscellaneous Article Stalls/trolleys policy,2012 issued on 02.11.2012, allotment of General Minor Units (GMUs) at A, B and C category stations is done under two packet tender system by calling competitive bids by Divisional Railway Manager (DRM). Allotment of Special Minor units(SMUs) at A, B, and C category stations and all units of GMUs and SMUs at D, E and F category stations is done by calling applications through press notification by DRM.

(e): No, Madam.