

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4532

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012

PACKAGED DRINKING WATER

Abdulrahman Shri ;Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have proposed to increase the price of packaged drinking water supplied by them in trains and platforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reaction of the Railways on the aforesaid hike; and
- (d) the efforts of the Railways to ensure the availability of food items at affordable rates in trains and railway stations?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The instructions for revision of sale price of Rail Neer and other shortlisted packaged drinking water Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) approved brands bottles from ₹ 12/- to ₹ 15/- for one litre bottle and from ₹ 8/- to ₹ 10/- for 500 ml. bottle has been issued recently on 22.11.2012. The reasons for hike of price of packaged drinking water is due to the increase in the costs of raw materials, electricity, fuel, transportation, manpower etc.. The increase in sale price will make the sale of 'Rail Neer' financially viable.

(d): A New Catering Policy, 2010 has been introduced, which emphasises on provision of quality and hygienic food at economic price. A uniform tariff and menu have been notified by the Ministry of Railways for meals for items like Standard meals, Breakfast, Tea/Coffee and Janta meals. Jan-Ahaar outlets have been set up on stations for sale of Janta meals and low cost affordable regional cuisine in the price band of ₹ 5/- to ₹ 50/- .