

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4426

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014

POLICY ON ISSUE OF VENDOR LICENCES

Jeyadurai Shri S. R.;Mani Shri Jose K.;Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy on allotment of books/stationery/other stalls at Railway stations in the country and whether reservation to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes and other categories is provided in allotment of the said stalls at railway stations;

(b) if so, the details of stalls allotted during the last three years, year/zone/ category-wise;

(c) whether cases of unauthorised persons other than allottees operating the said stalls have come to the notice of the Railways and whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether suggestions from elected representatives have been received by the Railways regarding catering/operation of the said stalls including PCO/STD booths; and

(e) if so, the details of the suggestions received during the last three years and action taken thereon?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4426 BY SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI, SHRI JOSE K. MANI AND SHRI PRABODH PANDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.02.2014 REGARDING POLICY ON ISSUE OF VENDOR LICENCES.

(a) Since the Bookstall Policy October 2004 is subjudice in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, no new allotment has been made, during the last three years. However, as per Bookstall Policy, 12.10.2004, allotment of Bookstalls at A, B and C category station was to be done through open, competitive, two packet tender system and at D, E and F category stations, allotment was to be done by calling application through Press Notification, based on laid down procedures. Further, new Catering Policy, 2010 dated 21.07.2010, for allotment of stalls/trolleys for sale of catering /vending items and Miscellaneous Article Policy dated 02.11.2012 for allotment of stalls/trolleys for sale of miscellaneous articles, have been issued. As per the above policy guidelines, allotment of all static General Minor Units (GMUs) at A, B & C categories of stations is done through open, competitive, two-packet tender system while allotment of all static Special Minor Units (SMUs) at A, B, and C category stations and all GMUs and SMUs at D, E and F category stations is done by calling applications through press notification duly following the laid down eligibility criteria, financial capability, annual sales turnover, past experience etc. There is 25% reservation for allotment of minor static units in A, B & C categories of stations and 49.5% reservation for allotment in D, E & F categories of stations for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes and other categories in catering stalls and miscellaneous articles stalls. Further, in Bookstall Policy of October 2004, there is a provision of 25% reservation in allotment of bookstalls at B and below category of stations for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes and other categories.

(b) This Information is voluminous and will take time for compilation.

(c) A complaint has been received by Northern Railway. On such complaints, action is taken by the railway as per extant policy.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. Some suggestions have been received from various elected representatives regarding catering/operation of the said stalls such as permission to sell additional packed items including packaged drinking water bottles, renewal of stalls, implementation of reservation for allotment of refreshment rooms/stalls to the backwards, tender system on bookstalls, fixation of licence fee/royalty, procedure of allotment of bookstalls etc. Suggestions have also been received for PCO/STD booths viz. shifting of the existing PCO Booths from one location to another, permission of sale of additional items like recharge coupons, mobile phone accessories etc. Suggestions are examined based on the extant policies.