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Title: Need to ensure proper rehabilitation of hawkers and vendors of Railways.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY (DUMDUM): Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention and the hon. Minister of Railways to a matter of serious concern which directly affects the livelihood of not less than 50,000 railway vendors/hawkers and nearly a lakh of families engaged in cottage industries. Estimation shows that more than seven lakh people will be seriously and adversely affected by the recent verdict given by the Calcutta High Court which debars the vendors to earn their livelihood in trains and railway stations. It is noteworthy to mention here that this judgement has been pronounced in accordance with the Indian Railways Act.

I understand that the Railway Hawkers Union led by CITU has already approached your goodself with the problems of the hawkers and suggested certain alternatives for a permanent solution of the problem, which may please be considered. Else, I apprehend, there will be serious implications. I thus urge upon the Government to arrange licence for these hawkers or an adequate security net or proper rehabilitation measures be adopted so that these people can continue to earn their livelihood.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Anirudh Prasad alias Sadhu Yadav – not present; Shri Vasant Rao Jivanrao More – not present.

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