

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3187
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2018**

INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER

**3187. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints for inadequate supply of drinking water at the Railway Stations across the country during each of the last three years and the current year;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise along with the action taken thereon;**
- (c) the number of Water Vending Machines (WVMs) installed at Railway Stations to provide potable water at affordable cost across the country so far along with the estimated cost of installation of such WVMs, zone-wise;**
- (d) whether the Government has also received complaints of contaminated potable water supplied at Railway Stations across the country during the said period;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and the reasons therefor along with the action taken thereon; and**
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate safe drinking water at affordable rates to passengers at the Railway Stations in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) of UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3187 BY SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB, SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE AND SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.03.2018 REGARDING INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER

(a), (b), (d) and (e): Yes, Madam. Complaints regarding drinking water are received which include inadequate supply and contamination. Such complaints have been received at various level, consolidated list of which is not maintained separately. These are examined and action as feasible and viable is taken.

(c): Zone-wise details of number of Water Vending Machines (WVMs) installed at Railway Stations to provide potable water at affordable cost along with the estimated cost of installation is as under:-

S. No.	Zonal Railway	No. of WVMs installed	Estimated cost (in ₹)
1	Central	173	The estimated cost per machine is between ₹4 lakh to ₹ 6 lakh.
2	East Central	174	
3	East Coast	63	
4	Eastern	31	
5	North Central	80	
6	North Eastern	59	
7	Northeast Frontier	55	
8	Northern	232	
9	North Western	76	
10	South Central	164	
11	South East Central	25	
12	South Eastern	35	
13	Southern	151	
14	South Western	72	
15	West Central	93	
16	Western	206	
Grand Total		1689	

(f): With an objective to make available potable drinking water of prescribed standard to passengers at affordable price, Water Vending Machines (WVMs) Policy was notified on 16.06.2015. Clean, Reverse Osmosis (RO) water is dispensed through these WVMs to travelling passengers at affordable rates. Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has been mandated to set up WVMs on Railway stations. Selling price of the dispensed water through these machines is much cheaper than bottled mineral water. The rates of dispensed water are as under:-

Quantity	Refill (Amount in ₹)	With Container (Amount in ₹)
300 ml	1	2
500 ml	3	5
1 litre	5	8
2 litre	8	12
5 litre	20	25
