

Catering service in trains

3014. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has decided to take over management of all mobile catering services including kitchens due to rising complaints about poor food quality provided in railway stations and in trains;

(b) if so, whether Railway Board would set up mechanism to supervise all mobile catering services in stations and trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the new Catering Policy 2010 introduced w.e.f. 21.07.2010, Railways has sought to improve the quality of food served on trains / at the railway stations, through transfer of management of catering services from IRCTC to Zonal Railways. The Catering Policy 2010 has also emphasized supervision and monitoring through an institutional mechanism put in place by the Zonal Railways by deploying railway personnel, who would check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Standard Bid Document would be redesigned to provide with adequate weightages for quality parameters.

Setting up of air-conditioned container factory

†3015. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to set up an air-conditioned container factory in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of amount likely to be spent by Government to set up this factory; and

(d) the time by when this factory would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) It is proposed to set up a refrigerated container factory on a Public Private Partnership mode at

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.