

Action against selling substandard foodstuff

†*199. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any mechanism in place for checking food-items being sold at railway stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any case of selling substandard foodstuff has been registered in the last two years; and
- (d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is an established mechanism to check food items being sold at Railway stations. Catering monitoring Cells have been set up at Zonal and Divisional level for daily monitoring of the catering activities. Emphasis has also been made in new Catering Policy, 2010 for conducting surprise and periodical inspections by Zonal Railways at various levels. Food samples are regularly collected by Food Inspectors/Food Safety Officers and sent for analysis to accredited laboratories. Some instances of sub-standard food stuff have come to the notice of the Railway Administration. In the last two years, out of a total samples of 45444, only 957 (2.1%) samples have failed. Prompt action has been initiated in all such cases. In 915 such cases, penalties were imposed or other departmental action initiated. In the remaining 42 cases, prosecution was launched under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act/Food Safety and Standard Act.

Resources for completing railway projects

†*200. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have collected the resources required for completing all projects for this year and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Railways have collected enough resources for completing all its ambitious projects and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.