

1	2	3
Tripura	5.60	17.73
Uttar Pradesh	—	—
Uttarakhand	—	—
West Bengal	11.45	21.80
TOTAL	463.89	680.71

Source: National Horticulture Board.

Irregularities in implementing Prime Minister's package for Vidarbha

*13. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has enquired into the complaints of irregularities and corruption in implementing the Prime Minister's package announced for the six districts of Vidarbha region, where farmers' suicides have taken place in large number;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated by Government against the culprits;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the relief Government proposes to give to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) In September, 2008, Government of Maharashtra constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gopal Reddy, the then Director General, Vasantrao Naik Shetkari Swavalamban Mission, Amravati to enquire into reports of irregularities in selection of beneficiaries under the programme of distribution of milch animals under the rehabilitation package for farmers in the identified districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The Committee submitted its report to the Government of Maharashtra in April, 2009. The Committee recommended that clear and detailed guidelines regarding the norms adopted for selection of beneficiaries under the rehabilitation package should be issued before implementing the scheme. Accordingly, *vide* GR dated 07.12.2009, Government of Maharashtra issued detailed guidelines for selection of beneficiaries.

Increase in prices of food served in trains

*14. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to increase the prices of food served in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that passengers are not happy with the quality of food presently served in all trains; and

(d) if so, whether Railways have directed the concerned agencies to improve the quality of food along with the enhancement in their prices?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The price of food sold in trains is directly linked to the input cost of raw materials and fuel. The catering charges for standard meals, breakfast, beverages and Janta meals which had been notified in 2003 have been revised on December, 2012 which are given in the Statement (*See below*). The price for 97 a-la-carte items have been notified by zonal railways in October, 2012 which had been last revised on September 2011. The catering charges of Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains were last revised in May, 1999.

(c) and (d) Improvement in the quality of catering services is an on-going process. A new catering policy has been introduced on 21.07.2010 which emphasises the availability of quality food at cheaper rates by setting up of Jan Ahaar outlets and janta meals and low cost affordable regional cuisine in static and mobile catering units. Supervision and monitoring have been strengthened through a mechanism put in place by deploying railway personnel, who check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Feedback regarding quality of services is always taken from passengers through opinion cards. Catering Monitoring Cells have been set up at Zonal and Divisional level for daily monitoring of the catering activities. Further, on the same pattern, a centralized Catering Complaint Monitoring Cell has been set up in Board's office having a toll free number 1800-111-321 for prompt redressal of the passenger grievances related to the catering activities for real time assistance to travelling public. Further, a transparent contract awarding, management and monitoring procedure has been defined in the New Catering Policy, 2010 for which Standard Bid Documents for

award of catering contracts have been prepared by the Ministry by engaging professional agencies having domain knowledge and expertise wherein stringent eligibility criteria to ensure quality with detailed penalty clauses have been defined. Detailed instructions regarding waste management have been issued in order to maintain hygiene and cleanliness at all catering units. As per catering policy in vogue, Railways propose to have base kitchens in railway premises for closely monitoring the quality.

Statement

*The revised rates of standard meals, breakfast and
beverages for Mail/Express trains*

Sl. No.	Item	Tariff existing 2012*	
		Static	Mobile
1	2	3	4
1	Standard tea (150 ml) in disposable cups of 170 ml capacity	5.00	5.00
2	Tea (with tea bag) (150 ml) in disposable cups of 170 ml capacity	7.00	7.00
3	Coffee using instant coffee powder (150 ml) in disposable cups of 170 ml capacity	7.00	7.00
4	Tea in pots (285 ml) + 2 tea bags + 2 sugar pouches	10.00	10.00
5	Coffee in pots (285 ml) + 2 instant Coffee sachets + 2 sugar pouches	15.00	15.00
6	Rail Neer/Packaged drinking water (chilled)		
	1 litre bottle/1000 ml	15.00	15.00
	500 ml. bottle	10.00	10.00
7	Janta Meal or Economy meal or Janta Khana	15.00	20.00
8	Standard Breakfast		
8 (i)	Vegetarian Breakfast (a) Bread Butter & cutlet (b) Idli and Vada (c) Upma and Vadad) Pongal and Vada	25.00	30.00
8 (ii)	Non-Vegetarian Breakfast Bread, Butter and omelet	30.00	35.00

1	2	3	4
9	Standard Casserole meals		
9 (i)	Vegetarian	45.00	50.00
9 (ii)	Non-Vegetarian	50.00	55.00
10	Standard Thali Meals (only in Refreshment Rooms)		
10 (i)	Meals in Thalīs (Vegetarian)	35.00	
10 (ii)	Meals in Thalīs (Non-vegetarian)	40.00	

* Tariff of all items inclusive of service tax @8.66%

New investment policy for urea sector

*15. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced a new investment policy for Urea sector to attract investment and enhance domestic production of Urea;

(b) the details of investment proposals received by the Ministry during the last six months, unit-wise;

(c) the number of proposals received by the Ministry for mega expansion of Urea production during the last six months from PSUs and Cooperative Urea Producers of Gujarat and by when the Central Government is going to grant the permission; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of all investment proposals including those from Gujarat received by the Ministry during last six months are given in Statement (*See* below). The companies have been requested to provide mandatory information as per para 13 of New Investment Policy 2012.