

Jan Ahaar stalls under Departmental Catering System at Lucknow station

†1522. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an order was issued by the Railway Board to run Jan Ahaar stalls situated at Lucknow railway station under Departmental Catering System;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the name of the agency which is running it at present;
- (c) the number of railway stations under the North Eastern Railway, where Jan Ahaars are being operated under the Departmental Catering System;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to run any food plaza at the Gorakhpur railway station; and
- (e) the details of the employees, against the sanctioned posts, in Jan Ahaar situated at Gorakhpur station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Guidelines have been issued to Zonal Railways for setting up of Jan Ahaars departmentally. However, in case of non-availability of Railway catering staff, operation of Jan Ahaars may be undertaken by the professionals (licensees) and the supervision and monitoring is to be done departmentally by Zonal Railways. Accordingly, Zonal Railway is ready to take over the Jan Ahaar stall at Lucknow Junction. At present, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is operating Jan Ahaar at Lucknow Junction through service provider M/s Krishna Enterprises.

- (c) One at Gorakhpur.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) The details of employees against the sanctioned posts in Jan Ahaar at Gorakhpur station are as follows (i) Catering Inspector -01 (ii) Sales Incharge -02 (iii) Head Cook -01, (iv) Assistant Cook -01 (v) Bearer-05 (vi) Helper -05.

Irregularity in tender process of yard remodelling

†1523. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Headquarter of the North Eastern Railway has
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- †Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

received complaints regarding irregularities in the tender process of yard remodelling at Gorakhpur railway station in the year 2013-14;

(b) if so, when were the complaints received and the progress made in the investigation thereof;

(c) the rate fixed by the tender committee for the abovesaid work and whether that rate was increased late ignoring the recommendations of the tender committee; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that on the basis of the complaints the matter was closed without any investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The complaint dated 23.04.2014, received by the North Eastern Railway on 30.04.2014 could not be authenticated as the complainant did not own the complaint. As per extant instructions, such pseudonymous complaints are not to be investigated.

Cartels in supplying materials to Railways

1524.SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of prevalence of cartels in supplying materials to Railways;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to break these cartels in the supply side to Railways; and

(c) whether the Ministry is considering any policy changes in the present method of procuring materials for Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry has issued circulars time to time on the said subject, suggesting steps to be taken in such cases including reporting the matter to Competition Commission of India.

(c) No, Sir.

Photo identity card for disabled persons to avail benefits

1525.SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are insisting on possession of photo identity card issued by it to avail the benefits of fares and other concessions for disabled persons;