

Regarding disproportionate hike in license fee for auto rickshaws plying at railway stations of Southern Railway ? Laid

SHRI ROBERT BRUCE C. (TIRUNELVELI): The license fee for auto rickshaws at railway stations is increased depending on the grade of the railway station. This has been a major issue for auto rickshaw drivers as the increase in license fee is severely disproportionate to their income. Also, the increase in the grade of the station does not confirm any benefits for the auto driver or their families. In Tirunelveli Railway Station, the license fee was fixed at ₹3074 for a period of six months, one year ago and was increased to ₹4000 around six months ago. Recently, the license fee has once again been increased by the Southern Railways to ₹6445 per Auto for six months, which is unaffordable by the auto rickshaw drivers. Hence, I request the Union Government and the Ministry of Railways to intervene immediately and revert the license fee to ₹3074 per auto for six months to help ease, the inconvenience offered on the families of the auto rickshaw drivers. Furthermore, I call upon the Union Government to constitute a committee at the station level, along with representatives of auto drivers to fix the license fee.