

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4393
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025**

UNAUTHORIZED RAILWAY STATION HAWKERS

4393. DR. SHARMILA SARKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of authorised platform hawkers and the revenue collected from them during the last five years, State-wise;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large number of so-called authorized hawkers have illegally occupied station premises with the support of local leaders/railway staff/police/otherwise and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the relevant statistics and the current status?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) to (c): Catering services at stations are made available to passengers through static catering units. Sale of catering and other miscellaneous items of travelling needs is permitted only through authorized vendors/waiters deployed by licensees of mobile and static units.

Unauthorized hawking and vending in the passenger area is prohibited on Indian Railways. It is an offence punishable under Section - 144 of Railways Act, 1989. Regular drives are conducted against any such activities in accordance with legal provisions and established procedure of law.

During the last five years, Indian Railways have received a total license fee of Rs.1292.57 crores from licensees of static catering units at stations.
