

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4237  
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2006  
PRICES OF FOOD ITEMS IN TRAINS /STATIONS  
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways are aware that prices of food items available in trains and at stations is very high;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the criteria adopted for fixing the prices of food items; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Railways for availability of food items at affordable prices, not under weight and supply of good quality food items in trains and at stations ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ( SHRI R. VELU )

(a) to (c) : The tariff of Tea/coffee, Breakfast and Standard meals fixed by the Ministry of Railways is considered reasonable. While fixing the same, Ministry of Railways takes into consideration the cost of various inputs like, raw materials, fuel, staff cost, packaging etc.

(d) : Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation and Zonal Railways conduct inspections and surprise checks at stations and on trains with a view to ensure that good quality food is supplied through Railway Catering Services. Efforts are also made that licensees do not overcharge for food and do not serve underweight food to the passengers. Measures like, imposition of fine, issuing warning and even termination of contract, are taken in the event of licensees found at fault.