

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4393  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004  
MOBILE LIBRARY-CUM-BOOKSTALL IN TRAINS  
Bhadana Shri Avtar Singh

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

- (a) the detailed reasons for not providing the mobile library-cum bookstall including hawking in long distance trains;
- (b) the reasons for discontinuing the above said facility which is being operated by the unemployed graduate category ; and
- (c) the arrangement made by the Government for the availability of books and newspapers etc. for travelling passengers in the long distance trains throughout the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The facility of Mobile Bookstall-cum-Library had been made available on a few long distance trains. It had also been decided to give the facility of free second class passes to the mobile libraries-cum-bookstall holders. After a review in 1986, it was decided that the facility of mobile bookstall-cum-library should not be further introduced due to poor patronage from passengers and also availability of Bookstall/trolleys on all important stations on Indian Railways.