

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1343
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
MENANCE OF VENDORS IN TRAINS
Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that passengers are being exploited in trains by the private vendors of food items in collusion with railway police and these vendors often indulge in indecent behaviour with passengers; and

(b) if so, the step being taken to put a check on such activities of vendors ?

Answer

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

(a): Railway is aware of the problem of food items being sold to passengers by unauthorized vendors in Railways. Whenever any case of collusion of Railway Police with unauthorized vendors or indecent behaviour by vendors with passenger has been reported, appropriate action is taken under the provision of law.

(b): Unauthorised vending / hawking and begging in trains and Railway premises is an offence under the provisions of Section 144 of the Railways Act, 1989. To eradicate the nuisance / menace of unauthorised vendors / hawkers and beggars causing inconvenience to the passengers, regular drives are being conducted by Railway Protection Force (RPF) in coordination with Commercial Staff and Government Railway Police (GRP). During the year 2006, 1,17,779 number of unauthorized vendors have been arrested and prosecuted under section 144 of the Railways Act, 1989.