

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3431  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003  
FREIGHT CHARGES ON TRANSPORTATION OF SALT  
BASUDEB ACHARIA

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

- (a) whether the Government have received representations from various Salt Manufacturers Associations and other Organisations regarding downfall in loading of Salt Wagons due to abnormal hike in freight on transportation of Salt;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government have taken a decision to reduce the freight charges on Salt;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

- (a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from salt manufacturers associations of Gujarat requesting for reduction in freight rates for edible salt.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) In the rationalized freight structure effective from April 1, 2002 certain commodities of common use, including edible salt, have already been kept in class-90, for which the freight rates are the lowest. In the Railway Budget 2003-04, no change has been proposed in respect of freight rates for edible salt.