

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1350
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
TRANSPORTATION OF COMMODITIES
Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether transportation of commodities particularly foodgrains by the Railways has been declined during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) : Yes, Sir. While freight transportation of Indian Railways has increased by 9.40% (in terms of tonnes originating) during the first seven months of the current financial year, transportation of foodgrains has declined by 12.70% during the same period.
- (b) : Reason for less transportation of foodgrains by the Railways is, primarily, reduced demand for railway rakes by the Food Corporation of India.
- (c) : Ministry of Railways has taken up the issue of less loading of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India / Ministry of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. After coordinated efforts and arrival of fresh paddy stocks, loading has already improved substantially.