

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4154  
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2006  
HIKE IN FREIGHT CHARGES  
Acharia Shri Basudeb

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

- (a) whether the railways have increased the freight charges for all parcel movement including Agro and Aqua products specifically for 'P' Scale;
- (b) if so, whether several welfare associations have sought exemption in freight charges for perishable items being produced by the farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard ?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): Andhra Fruit Growers & Merchants Association, Nuzvid and The Andhra Pradesh Fruit, Lemon, Fish Etc., Growers and Exporters Welfare Association, Vijayawada have requested to exempt fruits, seasonal mango, lemon, vegetables, fish, eggs & betel leaves from increase in parcel rates.

(d) In view of the increase in operational cost and losses in parcel services it is not possible to exempt Agro and Aqua products from increase in parcel rates.