

Increase in freight rates

†578. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the freight rates by Railways have been increased in December, 2010;
- (b) if so, the commodities for which freight rates have been increased;
- (c) the extent of increase in freight rates for each commodity; and
- (d) the additional revenue Railways will earn in the financial year 2010-11 as a result of this increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Since July 2006, there has been no across the board increase in freight rates by Railways. However, as a process of rationalisation, minor adjustment in telescopic rate structure has been carried out in December 2010, in respect of all commodities except Foodgrains and Chemical Manures and a minor change has been made in classification of Sugar and De-oiled Cake.

(c) As a result of the above freight adjustment, the extent of increase is negligible for major commodities. For example, the increase per kg per 1000 km is Nil for Foodgrain and Chemical Manures, 03 paise for Coal and Cement, 04 paise for Iron and Steel and Iron Ore and 05 paise per litre for Petroleum products.

(d) This can be assessed only after completion of financial year.

Loading of less quantity of Goods in Trains

†579. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the case of running goods-trains by loading thereon less quantity of goods by railway personnel has come to the light;
- (b) if so, the number of trains in which less quantity of goods were loaded in the last three years and the monetary loss to the Railways as a result thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the guilty persons by tracing them out for loading goods lesser than the prescribed loading; and
- (d) the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.