

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3885

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2010

AVAILABILITY OF RAKES

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the movement of fertilizers, foodgrains, sugar and other items have been affected due to non-availability of requisite number of rakes, in time ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Railways have evolved any new strategy to meet the increasing demand for rakes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA)

- (a) & (b) No, Madam. Indian Railways are according priority for movement of fertilizers, foodgrain etc. from Ports, Plants and other designated points and rakes are being provided for loading in consultation with Department of Fertilisers and Department of Food, as per their requirements, on placement of indents. Availability of wagons can be assessed from the fact that loading of fertilizer, foodgrain and other commodities on Indian Railways grew by 12.18%, 13.50% and 2.08%, respectively, during the months from April to October, 2010 in the current year as compared to the corresponding period of the last year.
- (c) & (d) The Railways are continuously acquiring higher number of wagons over the years. New wagons being manufactured are also designed for carrying greater payloads. Besides this, a large number of existing wagons are being retrofitted to enable them to carry higher payloads. These steps have not only increased the number of rakes available for loading but have also resulted in moving more tonnage in each train.