

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4473
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012
IMPROPER USE OF WAGONS
Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Gulshan Smt. Paramjit Kaur

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are aware that the railway wagons which are being used to carry fertilizers are also being used for carrying foodgrains without the necessary cleaning process as reported in the media recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard and also to ensure that such incidents are not repeated in future to avoid serious health hazards?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): The news item was published in the Tribune newspaper dated 3rd March 2012 regarding loading at Gurdaspur station.
- (c): Foodgrains and fertilizers are both bagged consignment and are loaded in covered wagons to protect the cargo from theft and rains. The process of cleaning wagons at loading/ unloading points is not undertaken by the Railways and is to be done by the loading and unloading agencies who handle the consignment.