

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3831
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
TRAIN TO FERRY FARM PRODUCE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has started a special train to ferry farm produce in coordination with the Railways for the benefit of farmers keeping in view the post harvest losses;
- (b) if so, the details along with the aims and objectives thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the said train would help in reducing the post harvest losses;
- (d) whether it is a fact that only one train has been started between Western and Northern India; and
- (e) the time by which such trains between Southern and Northern India is likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (e): National Horticulture Board under Ministry of Agriculture and Container Corporation of India under Ministry of Railways, have jointly undertaken a pilot project for introducing one containerized horticulture train, sometimes referred as "Farm Ferry", for providing technology solution for safe long distance transport of fresh fruits & vegetables, with the objective to reduce post harvest losses and transit time. Insulation and ventilation design of container will have effect of protecting fruits and vegetables from extremes of heat, cold and rain water, besides permitting respiration. So far one rake has been commissioned on pilot basis, which has been used for conducting trial runs on various sectors including western, northern and eastern part of the country, with different horticulture commodities. No time limit has been fixed for introduction of horticulture train between South and North India.