

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4573
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015
IMPACT OF HIKE IN RAILWAY FREIGHT
Antony Shri Anto

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the impact of recent hike in railway freight on the prices of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the steps taken to mitigate these problems?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b) : The impact of recent increase in freight rates on essential commodities is minimal as can be seen from the table given below:

Commodity	Average Price (Rs. per Kg)	Lead (in Km)	Impact of increase (Paise per Kg)
Salt	1200	12	0
Rice	1775	35	6
Wheat	1550	15	4
Sugar	1620	36	4
Onion	1250	25	7
Refined Oils	1600	90	4

Source: NITI Ayog & Railways.

Government has initiated several measures to contain price rise and improve the availability of essential food items.

The recent steps taken in this regard are at Annexure.