

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5654
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
FREIGHT CHARGES OF COAL
A.D.K. JEYASEELAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rail freight of coal is as much as 155% higher of the basic price of coal but freight charges for cement is very low;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether rationalisation of freight charges is being considered;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIST
RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

- (a) & (b) The freight rates for a commodity vary with distance of transportation. At an estimated average lead of 656 kms. for the year 2002-03, the freight rates for coal and cement are Rs.508.80 per tonne and Rs.548.00 per tonne respectively.
- (c) to (e) Rationalisation of the freight structure has been introduced in the Railway Budget 2002-03.