

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1291
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2005
DIVERSION OF COAL RAKES
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether diversion of coal rakes and non-issue of Supersessional Railway Receipts is a common feature on Eastern and South Eastern Railways;
- (b) if so, the number of diversion cases of coal rakes reported during each of the last three years in various loading points;
- (c) the details of freight outstanding on account of non-issue of SSRs during the said period;
- (d) the action taken by the Railways against the officials found responsible for such lapses; and
- (e) the steps taken to check the recurrence of such lapses in future ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

(a) No Sir. Diversion of coal rakes has been prohibited save in very exceptional cases like accidents, breaches, civil commotions or heavy congestion of the terminals or in extreme cases where the thermal power house is facing closure due to non-availability of coal. However, a detailed procedure has been laid down for diversion of coal in such exceptional cases also.

(b) Number of coal rakes diverted during the last three years on Eastern and South Eastern Railways, is as under: -

(In rake)

| Year | E.Rly. | S. E. Rly. |
|---------|--------|------------|
| 2001-02 | 271 | 854 |
| 2002-03 | 257 | 577 |
| 2003-04 | 138 | 28 |

(c) There is no freight outstanding on Eastern and South Eastern Railways on account of diversion of coal rakes done by them on their respective systems.

(d) As the diversion of coal rakes are done in emergent situations and to ensure adequate availability of coal with the Power Plants, no official is held responsible for such diversions.

(e) In order to minimize diversion of coal rakes, instructions have been issued to Zonal Railways that any diversion of coal rakes from one State Electricity Board (SEB) to another State Electricity Board or Power Corporation except for the purpose of match delivery is not permissible at the level of Zonal Railways. Even while ordering of match delivery, care has to be taken to ensure that the same grade of coal is match delivered as far as possible. Any diversion from one SEB to another SEB or Power Corporation for purposes other than match delivery shall be done only with the approval of Railway Board in exceptional circumstances.