

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2329
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2016**

FREIGHT CHARGES

†2329. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of freight charges for transportation of coal in the country;**
- (b) the number of stations in the country including Jharkhand where siding has been provided for coal transportation;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that the residents of cities nearby stations from where coal is transported are facing huge difficulties due to fly ash;**
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints of corruption in the railways regarding transportation of coal; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on above complaints?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2329 BY SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.11.2016 REGARDING FREIGHT CHARGES

(a) The coal tariff has been rationalized from 22.08.2016. The classification of Coal has been revised from Class-145 to Class-145A (Trainload) and Class-145B (Wagonload). The basic freight charges of coal at average lead and at select distances are given below:-

Distance (in Kilometers)	Basic Freight per Tonne (₹)	
	Trainload	Wagonload
100	164.50	172.70
350	516.00	541.80
500	712.00	747.60
525 Average lead	844.00	886.20
1000	1349.50	1417.00
1500	1961.20	2059.30
2000	2243.40	2355.60
2500	2518.40	2644.30

This rationalisation has resulted in reduction in rates on long leads due to reduction in distance slabs beyond 700 km. For example the percentage reduction in freight rates for distance between 1501 to 2000 kilometer is in the range of 4 to 13 percent, while beyond 2000 kilometer the reduction is in the range of 9 to 15 percent.

(b) There are 3,628 number of railways stations/sidings open for handling of coal traffic in the country including Jharkhand.

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(c) Agencies handling coal at railway stations/sidings are required to comply with the extant norms issued by the designated State Agencies regarding pollution. The following steps are normally taken to minimize pollution due to coal dust/ash:

- (i) Sprinkling of water at the time of unloading.**
- (ii) growing of trees in the vicinity .**
- (iii) Provision of wall/barricade along with the unloading line,
and**
- (iv) To cover coal wagons with tarpaulins to keep the
surrounding air free of dust.**

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.
