

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:219
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
PILFERAGE OF COAL
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of loss of coal by pilferage while in transit from the coal fields to destinations;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) whether any involvement of railway staff and Railway Protection Force has been established;
- (d) if so, the action taken against the erring officials; and
- (e) the preventive measures taken to check coal pilferage?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. 224 cases of coal theft/ pilferage were reported during 2005 (upto September) while in transit from the coal fields to destinations.

(c)&(d): 01 Railway employee was arrested during the year 2005 (upto September) and facing trial in case No.28/2005 under section 3(a), Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act. Railway Protection Force personnel, who were found negligent, have been taken up departmentally.

(e): The following preventive measures are being taken to avoid such recurrence in future:-

1. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other affected areas / sections.
2. Joint checking at inter-change points to take stock of the condition of wagons carrying coal consignments.
3. RPF armed pickets are posted / deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible.
4. Plain clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals.
5. Based on criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of criminals / receivers of stolen property in order to bring them to book.
6. Close co-ordination between Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and Local Police is maintained at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen property.