

(b) Non-recovery of dues from various Power Houses and State Electricity Boards, adversely impact the Gross Traffic Receipts of the Railways and thereby affect generation of Excess/ Surplus for appropriation to Development Fund and Capital Fund, which support plan expenditure of the Railways.

(c) Steps taken to expedite realisation of outstanding dues are as under:

- Pre payment of freight has been made compulsory for booking of coal for all Power Houses and State Electricity Boards.
- Close monitoring of recovery of outstanding dues from Power Houses/ State Electricity Boards by holding meetings with their representatives, whenever necessary.
- Launching special drives for clearance of outstanding dues by forming teams of Accounts and Commercial officials from time to time.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Prepayment of freight is made compulsory for booking of coal.

Premium Tatkal tickets

†3119. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the new policy and rules of Government, train passengers are being looted by charging higher fares in the name of premium Tatkal tickets, whereas several trains are running with vacant seats; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such kind of injustice with passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In order to improve the earnings from passenger services, w.e.f. 01.10.2014, in some of the selected trains by Zonal Railways which are most in demand, 50% of the existing accommodation under Tatkal Quota has been earmarked as Premium Tatkal Quota and is being booked on dynamic pricing.

This is a distance-slab based fare scheme where the fare increases by 20% after each slab of 10% berths are sold subject to a cap (maximum fare chargeable).

Tatkal is a facility over and above the normal booking of reserved seats/berths.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.