

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3917
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021

Environmental Pollution due to Coal Handling

3917. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received representations for halting of Coal Handling at Mormugao Port Trust (MPT) Goa due to issues relating to environmental pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and response of the Government and MPT thereto;
- (c) whether it is a fact that storage and Coal handling at MPT are the major contributors to Air and water pollution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government for sustainable environment and to ensure good health of tourists/locals by complete halting of Coal handling by MPT?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) to (d) Goa State pollution Control Board (Goa SPCB) is in receipt of representations regarding dust pollution caused due to coal handling operation at Mormugao Port Trust (MPT). Details of the complaints received by Goa SPCB is attached at **Annexure**.

Goa SPCB while issuing consent to coal handling units has specified measures to be adopted by units to maintain the Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) standards.

Goa State Pollution Control Board has issued consent to operate to MPT on 2 July 2020 with specific conditions, which includes:

- (i) The daily quantity of industrial effluent from the factory shall not exceed beyond prescribed limits.
- (ii) The daily quantity of domestic effluent from the factory shall not exceed beyond 40 KLD.
- (iii) The unit shall maintain and operate continuous ambient air quality monitoring system.
- (iv) The applicant shall store coal in such a way that coal stack height, should not be higher than 9 meters and clear distance between two adjoining heap at GL should be 5 meters.
- (v) Cargo-related operations at the MPT berths is permitted upto a wind-speed of 30 Km/hr. with the strict-adherence to the following conditions:

- (a) Normal operations permitted upto a wind-speed of 28 Km/hr (i.e. Beaufort scale-04).
 - (b) Precautionary measures should be in place with proportionate scaling-down Operations when the wind speed exceeds 28 km/hr. (i.e. Beaufort scale-05).
 - (c) All operations should stop at a wind-speed of 30 km/hr.
 - (d) Wind speed is not applicable during rainy season from June to September.
 - (e) Conditions from a to c are not applicable for green/non dusty cargo.
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- (vi) The port facility should submit an action plan within one month with a detailed layout plan and settling pond arrangements to ensure that no rain water contaminated with coal enters water body.
 - (vii) The unit shall install vertical garden and maintain the same wherever possible within the port and periphery and submit action plan within one month.
 - (viii) The existing wind shield of 15-meter height should be lined with liners either of tarpaulin/jute bag or equivalent in order to restrict the flow of dust particles. This may be kept in wet conditions all the time. This may be done immediately till vertical garden is in place.

The Government has taken numerous initiatives towards control of air and water pollution across the country, inter alia include monitoring of ambient air and water quality under NAMP and NWMP, development of industry specific emission and effluent standards, installation of Online Continuous Emission/ Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) to track discharge of pollutant from 17 categories of highly polluting industries., issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, etc.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3917 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 19.03.2021 REGARDING "ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION DUE TO COAL HANDLING" RAISED BY SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT

Details of Complaints received by Goa SPCB.

SI. No	Complainant	Subject
1	The Concerned Citizen 21-10-2008	Overloading of trucks carrying coal/coke from Mormugao Harbour
2	The Concerned Citizen 14-09-2009	Coal handling at Mormugao Port-Serious health Hazard to citizens of Vasco
3	The Concerned Citizen 17-04-2009	Coal Pollution in Vasco City
4	The Concerned Citizen 21-04-2009	Coal pollution in the City of Vasco
5	Save Vasco-Committee 15-02-2010	Heavy pollution causing environmental degradation which has impact on public health.
6	T.T. Shreedharan 25-11-2010	Complaint against Coal handling at Mormugao Port.
7	Deepak Naik (Online Grievance) 19-01-2017	Regarding dust pollution caused due to transportation of coal.
8.	GoencheRakondaar 31-07-2018	Complaint in public interest (fallen coal in patches on roads)
9.	Suvarnabandekar 05-09-2018	Regarding dust pollution caused due to transportation of coal.
10	GoencheRakondaar 31-07-2018	Complaint against M/s Adani and MPT against coal pollution
11	Goa First 12-02-2019	Complaint for causing Nuisance, air pollution and sound pollution by Adani Mormugao Port terminals, South wet port Ltd. And Mormugao Port Trust.
12	Savio J F Correia 28-02-2019	Compliant regarding coal handling at Mormugao port in windy condition in violation of Board directions.
13	Sherwyn F FCorreia 13-08-2019	Coal handling at MPT mooring Dolphins on trial basis
14	Life is Beautiful (Ashley M Noronha) 12-02-2019	Concern regarding Coal dust pollution happening in town of Vasco Goa
15	SherwynCorreia 18-02-2019	Violation of consent terms and environmental norms by coal handlers at Mormugao Port
16	Goa First 18-02-2019	Violation of consent terms and environmental norms by coal handlers at Mormugao Port.
17	AleixoReginaldoLaurengo, 18-02-2019	Coal Dust Menace in Vasco & other areas of Gao.
18	Savio J F Correia 26-02-2019	Coal Handling operation at MPT in gross violation of GSPCB directions.
19	Savio J F Correia 01-06-2020	Coal Handling operation at Mormugao Port during Cyclonic weather
20	Savio J F Correia 01-06-2020	Appeal to halt coal handling operations at Mormugao port during cyclonic weather.
21	Montu Kumar Choudhury 19-11-2020	Impact of negligent coal handling cause damages to the environment as well as human, non-human, air soil and water
22	AleixoReginaldoLaurengo 27-11-2020	Dangerously overloaded carrier with coal in Goan waters.
23	GoyantKollso Naka 09-10-2020	Demand to stop coal transportation, coal infrastructure project and land acquisition for doubling of hospet-Vasco-Da-Gama railway track
24	Vasco block Congress Committee	Complaint regarding handling and transportation of coal at Vasco City.
