

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 143
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2022**

Loading of Coal and Cement

† 143. KUNWAR DANISH ALI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that pollution level rises considerably while loading of coal and cement at the godowns, causing much trouble to people residing in the nearby areas, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Railways has taken/is taking any steps in view of the health of the people;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

(a) to (d) No, Sir. Indian Railways have issued detailed guidelines on 16.04.2018 to all zonal railways to mitigate pollution in handling of pollution intensive commodities at siding and goods sheds which inter-alia includes:-

i) Obtaining Consent to Establish in accordance with the provisions of State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) for development/construction of new siding / goods shed / Private freight Terminal / any loading / unloading point.

ii) Obtaining consent to Operate/Consent for Operation from State Pollution Control Board in accordance with the provisions of State Pollution Control Board for existing sidings keeping in view the notified areas / air pollution control areas and categorisation of Industrial Sectors.

iii) Zonal Railways be aware of Air Pollution Control Areas notified by respective SPCBs and ensure compliance to applicable environmental legislations.

iv) In addition to air pollution, water pollution and noise pollution should also be taken care of depending upon the extent of pollution and environmental impact for specific commodities and locations.

v) Provision of paved approach roads with adequate traffic carrying capacity at each loading/unloading point and repair/maintenance of existing road which are in bad condition.

vi) Water sprinkling system through mechanised System or tankers to control dust pollution.

vii) Appropriate green belt cover at loading/unloading point.

viii) Where necessary, the heavy loading and unloading traffic handling points to be provided with dust screen walls along periphery of the premises with adequate height.

ix) Additional free time of one hour per rake has been permitted for covering open wagons with tarpaulins during loading of loose/bulk commodities at all kinds of freight terminals e.g. good sheds, sidings (including Engine-on-Load) and Private Freight Terminals etc.
