

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 810
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026

POLLUTION DUE TO COAL TRANSPORTATION

810: Dr. Kadiyam Kavya

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of coal transportation and coal-linked logistics on pollution and public health in regions connected through rail/road corridors affecting Warangal district in Telangana and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any mitigation measures are being implemented to reduce dust pollution and improve safety in coal transport routes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure environmental compliance and public safety in coal movement affecting Warangal region?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

(a): The nearest coal mines to Warangal district are operated by Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) in Bhupalapalli area of Jayashankar Bhupalapalli district, located approximately 65 km from Warangal town. About 4,000 tonnes of coal per day is transported from Bhupalapalli mines to Uppal railway siding by road through tarpaulin-covered trucks over a distance of around 56 km.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies, including assessment of air quality, noise levels, water quality and socio-economic aspects, have been conducted by the Environment Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI). Traffic impact assessment studies were also undertaken to assess the impact of coal transportation on ambient air and noise quality.

Further, periodic ambient air quality monitoring is carried out in the core and buffer zones of SCCL mining projects in Bhupalapalli district to assess the impact of mining and coal transportation activities on nearby habitations. As per the monitored data and impact prediction studies, air quality parameters are observed to be within the prescribed standards.

(b) & (c): To mitigate dust pollution and enhance safety along coal transport routes, SCCL is implementing the following measures:

- Mandatory covering of all coal-carrying vehicles with tarpaulin sheets.
- Security checks at mines to ensure compliance and possession of valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates.
- Regular maintenance of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) as per manufacturer schedules to control exhaust emissions.
- Regular water sprinkling in core zones, particularly near loading and unloading areas, to suppress dust generation.
- Installation of mobile mist spraying systems and fog cannons at Coal Handling Plants (CHPs) and critical transfer points.
- Use of covered conveyor belts and dust suppression systems at coal handling and transfer areas.

- Deployment of mechanical sweepers for removal of coal dust from transport roads to prevent re-suspension.
- Asphalting and periodic maintenance of coal transport roads to minimize dust from vehicular movement.
- Development of avenue plantation and green belts along approximately 54 km of coal transport routes, mine boundaries and nearby habitations.
- Establishment of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) in core and buffer zones, with real-time data sharing with Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB).

(d): The Government, through SCCL, ensures environmental compliance and public safety in coal transportation by:

- Compliance with Environmental Clearance conditions and statutory requirements stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Telangana Pollution Control Board.
- Regular monitoring of ambient air quality and noise levels in core and buffer zones and submission of half-yearly environmental compliance reports to regulatory authorities.
- Implementation of dust suppression measures such as water sprinkling, mist spraying, covered coal transportation and maintenance of haul roads.
- Conducting regular safety checks, including breath analyser tests of drivers, to promote safe road transportation.
- Green belt development along transport corridors and periodic inspections to ensure sustained environmental and public health safeguards.
