

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2908  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.05.2016**

**SIDINGS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF COAL**

**†2908. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of the railway stations in the country including Jharkhand where sidings are available for transportation of coal;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that residents of the cities which are close to the stations having sidings for coal transportation are facing lots of problems due to coal dust/ash;**
- (c) if so, the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and**
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding corruption in transportation of coal through Railways and if so, the details thereof and the punitive action taken by the Government thereon?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

- (a) : At present, there are 3,626 number of railway stations/sidings open for handling of coal traffic in the country including Jharkhand.**

**(b) & (c) : Agencies handling coal at railway stations/sidings are required to comply with the extant norms issued by the designated State Agencies regarding pollution. The following steps are normally taken to minimize pollution due to coal dust/ash:**

**(i) Sprinkling of water at the time of unloading.**

**(ii) Growing of trees in the vicinity.**

**(iii) Provision of wall/barricade along with the unloading line.**

**(iv) To cover coal wagons with tarpaulins to keep the surrounding air free of dust.**

**(d) : No, Madam.**

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