

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:466  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009  
POLLUTION DUE TO COAL HANDLING AND DUMPING  
Sardinha Shri Francisco

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

- (a) whether the severe pollution is being caused by the coal handling and dumping in the Marmagao Port;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the extent of air and water pollution in the vicinity of the port;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the said pollution;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received any complaints in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (c): No, Madam. The port has taken all possible steps to keep the pollution from handling of coal/coke at the port within permissible limits. These are:-

- (i) Water is sprayed continuously to control the dust generation during operations.
- (ii) The Coal/Coke stacks at the port are covered with tarpaulins.
- (iii) Steep demurrage charges are charged to discourage overstay of Coal/Coke cargo.
- (iv) The Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (AAQM) is being carried out continuously by the Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB) so ensure that the pollution is kept within permissible limits.

(d) & (e): No complaints in this regard have been received in this Ministry in the recent past.