

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.12.2009
ANSWERED ON
ELECTRICITY FROM DECOMPOSITION OF SOLID WASTE .

3495

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN

Will the Minister of COAL AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the survey by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) regarding solid waste generated by the cities;

(b) if so, the quantum of solid waste generated in the cities due to lack of adequate treatment and disposal facilities;

(c) whether landfill gas is a natural by-product of the de-composition of solid waste in landfills and is primarily comprised of carbon dioxide and methane which can be used as a substitute for electricity generated by thermal or coal; and

(d) if so, the Central contribution thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

(DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a)&(b):Yes, Sir. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has brought out a report in August 2009, on survey of current status of municipal solid waste (MSW) management in 22 cities. The report indicates that 23,425 tonnes per day of solid waste out of a total of 27,018 tonnes per day generated in these 22 cities, is dumped in the landfills. This shows a lack of adequate treatment of solid waste before it's disposal.

(c):Landfill gas, which is a product of decomposition of the biodegradable fraction of solid waste in scientifically constructed landfill, can be used as a fuel for generating electricity. However, as per the provisions of Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules – 2000, Municipal Corporations / Urban Local Bodies are supposed to treat the biodegradable waste through composting or other state-of-the-art technologies for power generation, etc. and dump only the inert fraction of solid waste in the landfills.

(d):Ministry of Urban Development has approved solid waste management projects based on an integrated approach under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, in 40 cities, including 15 of the 22 cities covered by the survey, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2186.14 crore. The projects include segregation at source, collection, transportation, processing & treatment and disposal of solid waste in accordance with Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules–2000.