

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3287
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 23.03.2018

**CREATING AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL
HAZARDS OF ELECTRONIC WASTE**

3287. SHRI M.D. NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: -

- (a) the details of the steps taken to create awareness on environmental hazards of electronic waste;
- (b) the details of number of organisations and educational institutes given funds for organising workshops and seminars to create awareness during last three years, state-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) the manner in which the impact assessment of such workshops and seminars is done, alongwith the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI K.J. ALPHONS)

(a): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), being the nodal ministry for Electronics and IT, is involved in developing technology to recycle e-waste in an environment friendly manner. MeitY promotes R&D to develop technological solutions for e-waste management in environment friendly manner and up-scaled the technology to demonstrate at Bengaluru.

The major concern of e-waste management in India is lack of awareness amongst various stakeholders about the hazards associated to the end-of-life products. In this direction, MeitY is implementing an “Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic Waste” under Digital India initiative since March 2015, through Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), New Delhi.

The stakeholders chosen were government officials, school/college students, resident welfare associations, manufacturers, producers, dealers, re-furbishers, recyclers and informal sector. Development of suitable content for the stakeholders, organising awareness workshops and inventory study of quantum of e-waste were broad agenda. In the initial phase, a city each in the 10 identified states, namely, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Goa, Bihar, Puducherry, West Bengal, Assam and Manipur have been covered. So far, projects for content development; organization of workshops/ activities; capacity building of government officials through training; mass awareness through cinema and inventory study have been initiated. All the projects, initiated during the first phase, have been completed successfully.

Short modules and films, specific to various stakeholders, have been created for spreading general awareness about the hazards of the recycling methods being used by the unorganized sector vis-à-vis best practices available for environment friendly recycling. The general public is being encouraged to participate in “Swachh Digital Bharat” by giving their e-waste to the authorized recyclers only.

Under the programme, in 425 Workshops and activities organised in various cities, nearly 1.23 lakhs participants from School, colleges, residents' welfare associations, manufacturer, informal operators etc. and 2273 government officials have participated in various cities. The mass awareness amongst the

youth of the country has been also been created through cinema, wherein nearly 7.6 crore audience has been covered in 815 cinema halls. In addition to awareness, the programme has also undertaken inventory study for estimation of the quantum of e-waste in these ten states. The state-wise details of workshops and activities alongwith participation is indicated below:

Details for State wise/city-wise workshops and activities organized

S.No.	State / City	Workshops	Activities
1.	Panjim	15	47
2.	Ranchi	8	55
3.	Bhubaneswar	10	22
4.	Imphal	6	18
5.	Kolkata	11	24
6.	Indore	11	48
7.	Puducherry	10	18
8.	Patna	7	44
9.	Guwahati	7	18
10.	Moradabad	9	37
Grand Total		94	331

State wise participation in Workshops/activities

S.No.	State	Nasscom Foundation	MAIT	CEAMA	Total
1.	Puducherry	6272	184	1140	7596
2.	Moradabad	8834	1071	1035	10940
3.	Ranchi	22846	238	728	23812
4.	Guwahati	5519	35	1245	6799
5.	Patna	6680	151	1116	7947
6.	Bhubaneswar	27748	566	762	29076
	Kolkata	11118	424	1365	12907
8.	Indore	7921	214	1264	9399
9.	Panjim	6461	19	1030	7510
10.	Imphal	6158	0	943	7101
Grand Total					123087

In addition, 4 awareness workshops for stakeholders under E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 have been conducted by Central Pollution Control Board to create awareness on environmental hazards of electronic waste. Further, under Swachh Bharat Mission, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in association of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has initiated a nationwide 'Capacity Building Programme' on implementation of six waste management rules, including E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. So far, 10 cities – East Delhi, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Kanpur, Faridabad, Ranchi, Indore, Raipur, Bengaluru and Jabalpur have been covered.

(b): The awareness programme is being implemented under the aegis of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), New Delhi, an autonomous society under MeitY. So far, an amount of Rs. 9.15 crores has

been released to STPI, New Delhi since March 2015. Funds were, however, not released to any other agency.

(c): Methodology for Impact Assessment:

- Detailed standard operating procedure has been developed
- Monitoring and evaluation format has been developed to capture the weekly progress
- A city level taskforce was created in each city to guide and monitor the implementation of the workshops/ activities.
- Feedback from the participants was obtained.
- As a result of training programme conducted for government officials, some departments, namely, Goa Pollution Control Board; Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Imphal; State Pollution Control Board, Imphal; Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Science, Imphal; Department of Health & Family Welfare Services, Puducherry etc. have updated/ modified their present trend of handling e-waste in terms of classification, identification and processing.
