

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3890
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2.04.2018

Guidelines for treatment of bio-medical waste

3890. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of rules/guidelines put in place for treating bio-medical waste in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that deadly, hazardous and toxic bio-medical waste generated by healthcare units is being mixed with municipal garbage in every part of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government feels that there should be a stringent regulatory system/mechanism to bring every healthcare unit under it, and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken to put in place such a system/mechanism; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) The Government has notified the Bio-medical Waste Management (BMWM) Rules, 2016 on 28th March, 2016 in supersession of the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 with the objective to regulate and improve segregation, collection, processing, treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste in an environmentally sound manner. The Rules also prescribe standards for treatment and disposal of biomedical waste being generated in healthcare facilities and treated by Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs). The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has also published guidelines on (i) Common bio-medical waste treatment and disposal facilities; (ii) Management of BMW generated during Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP); (iii) Environmentally sound management of mercury waste generated from health care facilities etc.

(b) to (e) As per annual report of CPCB for the year, 2016, there are about 1,87,485 Health Care Facilities (HCFs) in the country having 17,01,986 beds and generating about 519 Tons bio-medical waste per day. There are about 189 Common Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs) in operation and 20 new such facilities are under construction. As per the provisions of the Rules, 90,763 HCFs have obtained authorization and 11,712 HCFs are having captive bio-medical waste treatment and disposal facilities, which treat and dispose 483 Tons of bio-medical per day, which accounts for approximately 93% of the total waste generated. It is also reported in the annual report that about 11789 HCFs/CBWTFs observed to be violating some of the provisions of the BMW Rules.
