

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1805**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2023

**Scientific and efficient handling of e-waste**

1805. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that most of the country's e-waste recycling is informal, unscientific and hazardous, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of the steps taken by Government to handle generated e-wastes in a scientific and harmless manner, both to the human as well as environment?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a)& (b) Government does not have any estimate regarding the proportion of e-waste being handled by informal sector. Following steps have been taken by the government to handle generated e-wastes in a scientific and harmless manner, both to the human as well as environment in the country:

- (i) The management of e-waste is being carried out under the frame work of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and amendments there off. The Rules, are effective from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2016. The rules provide for followings:
  - Applicable to every manufacturer, producer, consumer, bulk consumer, collection centres, dealers, e-retailer, refurbisher, dismantler and recycler.
  - Under the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime, producers have to obtain EPR Authorization from Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for implementing their EPR and details of their dismantlers/recyclers.
  - Notified electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) are twenty-one (21) and listed in Schedule – I of the above said Rules.
  - Under EPR regime, producers of notified EEE have been given annual e-waste collection targets based on the generation from the previously sold EEE or based on sales of EEE as the case may be.
- (ii) Ministry has notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2022. These rules will replace E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2023. These rules will launch a new EPR regime for e-waste recycling. The salient feature of new rules is as under:
  - Applicable to every manufacturer, producer, refurbisher, dismantler and recycler.
  - All the manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler are required to register on portal developed by CPCB.

- No entity shall carry out any business without registration and also not deal with any unregistered entity.
  - Authorization has now been replaced by Registration through online portal and only manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler require Registration.
  - Provisions for environment compensation and verification & audit has been introduced.
- (iii) An Action Plan for enforcement of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, across the country is in place and is being implemented by all the States/UTs and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). In the said action plan, checking informal traders, dismantlers, recyclers of e-waste have been taken-up as one of the action points. Drives for identification of informal activities are to be done by all the SPCBs along with district administration of the State. An e-waste Management review portal has also been developed for uploading status & progress of e-waste action plan.
- (iv) Actions, such as, constitution of teams for carrying out drives, issuing of notices, closure of operation, seizing the E-Waste against the informal processing are being taken up by the concerned SPCBs/PCCs. Twenty-One SPCBs/ PCCs started the drive against informal recycling as per the aforesaid Action Plan during financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22.

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