

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 118**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

**National Circular Economy Council**

\*118. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether Government has set up the National Circular Economy Council (NCEC) as stated in Circular Economy in the e-waste Action Plan, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the mandate, timeline, composition, consultations held and achievements till date of the NCEC;
- (c) whether the NCEC contributed to the setting of mandatory percentages for the use of recycled materials (both ferrous and non-ferrous) in all new products; and
- (d) whether mandatory percentages have not been implemented, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 118 for reply on 05.12.2024 regarding “National Circular Economy Council” asked by Shri Tiruchi Siva Hon’ble Member of Parliament.**

(a) to (d) National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog in March, 2021 had constituted sectoral committees to develop circular economy action plans in various sectors including electronics and electrical sector waste. Lead Ministries were identified to make the action plan and coordinate among stakeholder Ministries/Departments in implementing them.

For the subject of Circular Economy in Electronics and Electrical Sector, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) is the nodal Ministry. One of the recommendations of the Action Plan prepared by MeitY on Electronics and Electrical Sector was regarding the proposal for setting up of a ‘National Circular Economy Council (NCEC)’, a multi Ministry-level agency including all stakeholders such as producers, PROs, recyclers etc. However, final Action Plan on Electronics and Electrical Sector did not envisage requirement of setting up of National Circular Economy Council. The actions stipulated by the Council are implemented by MeitY and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in coordination with other stakeholders.

MoEFCC has been actively engaged in implementing action plan on electricals and electronics sector. These actions relate to making regulatory provisions concerning e-waste collection, stakeholder accountability, recovery/recycling targets, audit protocol etc. To address these issues, Ministry has comprehensively revised the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 in November, 2022 and the same is in force since 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2023. These new rules intend to manage e-waste in an environmentally sound manner and put in place an improved Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime for e-waste recycling wherein all the manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler are required to register on portal developed by the Central Pollution Control Board. The new provisions would facilitate and channelize the informal sector to formal sector for doing business and ensure recycling of E-waste in environmentally sound manner. Provisions for environmental compensation and verification & audit have also been introduced. These rules also promote Circular Economy through EPR regime and scientific recycling/disposal of the e-waste.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has developed an online EPR Portal for the management of e-waste. The Portal has provisions for registration of producers, manufacturers, recyclers and refurbishers of e-waste. The Portal also serves as platform for the transaction of EPR credits between producers, recycler and refurbishers for the fulfilment of EPR obligations of producers. As on date 7050 producers, 295 recyclers, 47 refurbishers and 27 manufacturers have been granted registration on the EPR Portal. During Financial Year 2023-24, total 4869 producers were registered on the EPR Portal having EPR obligation in terms of end products equal to 2,75,971 MT. As on date, total 92% of EPR obligation (2,54,253 MT) have been fulfilled through transfer of EPR certificates by the registered recyclers to registered producers. Further, following guidelines/standard operating procedures (SOPs)/frameworks have been prepared by CPCB under E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022:

- Guidelines for recyclers and refurbishers of E-Waste
- Guidelines for determination of processing capacity of E-Waste recycling facility by State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees

- Environmental Compensation guidelines for violations/ non-compliances of these rules
- SOPs for grant of registration to producers, manufacturers, refurbishers and recyclers
- Framework for generation of EPR Certificates
- Guidance document for generation and transfer of EPR Certificates

Indian e-waste recycling industry is in development phase, and recycling sector is trying to update it with latest technology with the active help of Government. Mandatory percentages for the use of recycled materials will be provided in phased manner taking into consideration the progress in the implementation of the EPR regime.

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