

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2866
ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025

RECYCLING AND END-OF-LIFE POLICY FOR SMART METERS

2866 SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

Will the Minister of **POWER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a national policy for recycling and disposal of smart electricity meters and conventional meters once they reach their end-of-life;
- (b) total number of smart meters installed, average lifespan, and estimated quantity of smart meters/conventional meters that have reached or will reach end-of-life during the next five years;
- (c) whether provisions exist for environmentally safe and scientific disposal of such meters by States or utilities;
- (d) whether any States have set up recycling facilities or contracted CPCB-certified recyclers for electricity meter recycling, and if so, details thereof; and
- (e) measures taken to prevent improper disposal of electricity meters that may contain hazardous components?

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (e) : Management of e-waste is regulated under E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 notified under Environment (Protection) Act 1986 with the objective to take steps to ensure management of e-waste in a manner which shall protect health and environment against any adverse effects. These Rules provide for managing e-waste in an environmentally sound manner and putting in place an improved Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime for e-waste recycling wherein all the manufacturers, producers, refurbishers and recyclers are required to be registered on the portal developed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Further, an Action Plan for implementation of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 is in place and the same is being implemented by all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in their respective States/UTs.

The responsibility for installation of energy meter is of the concerned distribution utility/ licensee as per rules and regulations specified by concerned Electricity Regulatory Commission. The utilities are also responsible for maintenance, replacement and safe disposal of these meters.

Further, Roll-out of smart meters under RDSS is envisaged on TOTEX mode in which the AMISP (Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Provider) will be responsible for supplying, maintaining and operating the metering infrastructure post installation. This approach provides end-to-end responsibility of AMISP for delivery of services during the entire life cycle of the project (7-10 years). 20.33 Cr smart meters have been sanctioned under RDSS and overall 3.78 crore smart meters have been installed across the country till date under various other schemes.
