GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 529 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2025

Disposal and recycling of e-waste

529. SHRI SAKET GOKHALE:

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

- (a) the policies and measures taken by the Ministry to tackle the issue of growing e-waste in India; and
- (b) the current policies and measures put in place by the Ministry to ensure proper disposal and recycling of discarded electronic devices and components from consumers as well as industries?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) & (b) The management of e-waste in India is presently regulated under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. 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 1st April, 2023. These new 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 manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler are required to register on portal developed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The new provisions facilitate and channelize the informal sector to formal sector for doing business and ensuring 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. Further, CPCB has taken following steps for effective management of E-Waste Rules as under:
- (i) These rules are regulating 106 Electrical & Electronic Equipment (EEE) listed in Schedule-I of the said Rules.
- (ii) The Rules also intend to extend the life and re-use of EEE through their refurbishing and has provision for incentivizing refurbishing in the Rules.
- (iii) The rules have also prescribed standards for the reduction of hazardous substance in the newly manufactured EEEs. As per the E-Waste (Management) Rules.
- (iv) The registered entities submit their compliance through Quarterly and Annual Returns on the E-waste Portal.
- (v) The rules have provided verification and audit by the Central Pollution Control Board or through a designated agency to verify compliance of these rules through random inspection and periodic audit, as deemed appropriate, so as to take action against violations of these rules.

- (vi) Environmental Compensation (EC) Guidelines under E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 have been developed for levying EC on any entity in case of violation of any of the provision of these rules and guidelines issued hereunder.
- (vii) An online E-Waste EPR portal has been developed by CPCB wherein entities such as producers, manufacturers, recyclers and refurbishers of the e-waste are required to be registered.
- (viii) CPCB has developed guidelines for the scientific and environmentally sound management of e-waste. The guidelines detail the procedures and facilities in terms of machineries and pollution control devices required for the recycling of e-waste in environmentally sound manner.
- (ix) 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. SPCBs/PCCs are submitting quarterly progress report. The action plan makes it incumbent upon SPCBs/PCCs to carry out regular drives for checking informal e-waste activities and help them to formalise.
