

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3085
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.01.2018

Disposal of e-waste

3085. SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

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

- (a) whether huge amount of toxic e-waste of disposable nature was stored in all the power firms across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has asked the power firms to dispose of these e-wastes without damaging the environment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response received from the power firms in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b) As per extant provisions of E-Waste (Management) Rules 2016, all the power firms being bulk consumers of electronic and electrical equipment are obliged to dispose of e-waste in the prescribed manner by handing over to authorized collection centers only. Power generating units deploy electronic and electrical equipment of various vintage which would attain end-of-life and turn into e-waste. In pursuance of the directions of National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) have jointly inspected twenty installations of power distribution companies and reported non availability of any stock of e-waste except at Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited, Mangolpuri.

(c) & (d) The Government has not issued any specific directions to power firms to dispose of the e-waste. However, E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 were notified in March, 2016 for providing environmentally sound systems for disposal of e-waste. The provisions of these Rules include dedicated extended producers' responsibility (EPR), setting up of producer responsibility organizations and e-waste exchanges to facilitate collection and recycling, assigning specific responsibility to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal, providing for economic incentives for collection of electronic waste, and other measures which include responsibility of producers of electronic and electrical products for collection and channelizing of electronic waste. The power firms are the bulk consumers of the electrical and electronic equipments. As per the provisions of the E-Waste management Rules, 2016 such companies are required to maintain records and file annual report to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.
