

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2352
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2018

e-Waste

2352. DR. KULAMANI SAMAL:

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

- (a) whether increasing amount of e-waste has posed a bigger threat for the country from the view point of pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount of e-waste that has been generated during last three years and the current year and the steps taken by the Government to reduce or dismantle it in order to address the problems of pollution; and
- (d) the total capacity for recycling of e-waste along with the dumped/not recycled e-waste in the country at present?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The country's economic growth, rise in per capita income, and technological innovations coupled with high obsolescence rate of electronic and electrical equipments has resulted in increase in the rate of generation of e-waste. The toxic constituents such as Lead, Mercury, Cadmium, Hexavalent Chromium, Polybrominated biphenyls and Polybrominated diphenyl ethers are used in the manufacturing of electronic devices. Disposal of e-waste from such electronic devices, without processing it in an environmentally sound manner, may affect the human health and environment including soil and ground water.

(c) & (d) So far, comprehensive inventorization of e-waste generation in the country has not been done. However, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2005 estimated 1.47 lakh ton of e-waste in the country, and simultaneously had projected 8.0 lakh ton of e-waste generation in the year 2010. As per the United Nations University report, "The Global E-Waste Monitor 2017", 20 lakh ton of e-waste generation was reported in the country in 2016. For safe disposal of e-waste there are 178 dismantling/recycling units with a capacity of 4,41,085.6 metric tonnes per annum. In order to ensure safe disposal of e-waste the Government has revised E-waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2011 comprehensively and notified E-Waste (Management) Rules in March, 2016. The provisions of these Rules include extended producers responsibility, setting up of producer responsibility organizations and e-waste exchange 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 Rules provide for simplified permission process for setting up of dismantling and recycling facilities through single authorization based on Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) prescribed by CPCB. State Governments have been entrusted with the responsibility for earmarking industrial space for e-waste dismantling and recycling facilities, and to undertake industrial skill development and establish measures for safety and health of workers engaged in dismantling and recycling facilities of e-waste.
