

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3924
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

Environmental Hazards of e-Waste

3924. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken to create awareness on environmental hazards of electronic waste (e-waste);
- (b) the details of the number of organisations and educational institutes given funds for organising workshops and seminars to create awareness during the last three years, State/UT-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) the details of the manner in which the impact assessment of such workshops and seminars is done?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry have notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules in March, 2016. As per provisions of these Rules, the responsibility of creating awareness including through media, publications, advertisements, posters, or by any other mean of communication and product user documents has been imposed on the Producers. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in association with Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), has initiated a project for conducting nationwide Capacity Building Programme on implementation of various Waste Management Rules, including E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. In this regard, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has been identified as National Implementing Agency to conduct the programmes while National Productivity Council (NPC) was selected as Programme Coordinator. So far these Capacity Building Programmes have been organized in 23 Cities. Capacity Building Project has been initiated with a budgetary provision of Rs 2.12 Crores granted to CPCB by MoHUA. Out of total grant, an amount of 1.67 crores is allocated to National productivity Council for preparation of material for short videos, toolkit material, self speaking power point presentations and other similar training material. In addition, the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated a project entitled "Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic waste" under Digital India initiatives. The programme aims to provide training, tools, content materials, videos, printed materials to create awareness in order to reduce the adverse impact on environment and health due to the polluting methods, used in the unorganized sector for recycling e-waste. Under the programme 425 Workshops and activities had been organised in various cities, nearly 1.23 lakhs participants from School, colleges, residents' welfare associations, manufacturer,

informal operators etc. and 2273 government officials have participated in various cities. The mass awareness amongst the youth of the country has been also been created through cinema, wherein nearly 7.6 crore audience has been covered in 815 cinema halls. The MeitY has released Rs. 17.70 crores since March 2015 to Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), New Delhi for implementing awareness programme.

(c) In order to assess the impact of awareness program a city level taskforce was created in each city to guide and monitor the implementation of the workshops/ activities by MeitY. The feedback from the participants was obtained. As a result of training programme conducted for Government departments, namely, Goa Pollution Control Board; Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Imphal; State Pollution Control Board, Imphal; Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Science, Imphal; Department of Health & Family Welfare Services, Puducherry etc. have updated/ modified their present trend of handling e-waste.
