

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3990**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

**Electronic Waste**

3990. SHRI B.V. NAIK:

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

- (a) whether Electronic-Waste (E-waste) in the country is increasing at a fast pace every year;
- (b) if so, the details of E-wastes generated during the last five years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan for safe disposal of E-wastes and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of the fact that workers involved in disposal of E-wastes are contracting several diseases resulting in their death; and
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to protect people from such diseases and ensure safe disposal of E-wastes and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) 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. 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 Global E-waste Monitor 2017 Report of United Nation University the annual generation of e-waste in India was 2 million metric tonnes in 2016. For safe disposal of e-waste there are 275 authorized dismantling/recycling units with a capacity of 5,10,950.1 metric tonnes per annum.

(d) & (e) 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. However, no case of workers involved in disposal of e-wastes contracting diseases and resulting in their death have been reported to the Ministry. In order to ensure safe disposal of e-waste the Ministry has notified E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2016 and has further made amendments in March, 2018 for its effective implementation. 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. The Rules also provide for simplified permission process for setting up of dismantling and recycling facilities through single authorization based on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) 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 protection of health and safety of workers engaged in dismantling and recycling facilities of e-waste.

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