

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2067
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/12/2018

Plastic Waste

2067. SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:

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

- (a) the average consumption of plastic and the plastic waste generated annually in the country;
- (b) the major cities/States generating the maximum plastic waste;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study on the harmful effects of plastic waste on human health and environment and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the National Green Tribunal has issued any directive/guideline in this regard, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government for management and safe disposal of plastic waste including plastic packaging along with the measures taken to ensure the safety of the workers employed in plastic industry in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) According to National Accounts Statistics 2015, brought out by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the average production/consumption of plastic products during the years 2011-12 to 2015-16 (up to September 2015) is 707 MMT/year with the growth rate of 8.3% per year in chemical and chemical products sector. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) conducted study in 60 major cities of India. It has been estimated that around 4059 T/day of plastic waste is generated from these cities. Extrapolating this plastic waste generation data from 60 major cities to the entire country, it is estimated that around 25,940 T/day of plastic waste is generated in India.

(c) In a study sponsored by Central Pollution Control Board it was observed that the heavy metals, chloride, phthalates etc. migrate from plastic waste into the surrounding medium because these are not chemically bound and remain present as mobile and leachable phase.

(d) The National Green Tribunal vide its judgment in Original Application No. 199 of 2014 in the matter of Almitra H. Patel Versus Union of India issued consolidated directions to the states and the Union Territories for implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

(e) The Government has notified Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. As per the Rules, the generators of waste have been mandated to take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste, not to litter the plastic waste, ensure segregated storage of waste at source and handover segregated waste to local bodies or agencies authorised by the local bodies. The rules also mandate the responsibilities of local bodies, gram panchayats, waste generators, retailers and street vendors to manage plastic waste. The rules mandate the producers, importers and brand owners to work out modalities for waste collection system based on the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility. The occupational safety, health and welfare of workers employed in the factories are taken care by various legislations by Government of India i.e. the Factories Act 1948 and others.
