

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1878
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

E-waste Management

1878. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India ranks third in terms of e-waste generation and if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of the E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016;
- (b) the estimated generation of e-waste in the country during the last three years and current year, year-wise and type-wise including the estimate for generation of e-waste in future, if any;
- (c) the impact of management of e-waste by informal sector and whether the Government has formulated any action plan for safe disposal of e-waste;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to initiate a project for effective disposal of e-waste in the country, especially in Kerala;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to create awareness among the household and institutional consumers regarding the Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) towards the e-waste level related aspects and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to fix the liability to the manufacturers and bulk users of the electronic equipments for the scientific disposal of the e-waste and if so, the details of action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has informed that as per the United Nations University Report "The Global E-Waste Monitor Report 2020, e-waste generation in India in 2019 is mentioned as 3.230 Million Tonne which is third highest. Following steps have been taken by the government for the effective implementation of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016:
- (i) For implementation of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 nine (9) specific guidelines have been prepared and made available on the web site of CPCB.
 - (ii) Guidelines for Producer Responsibility Organizations (PRO) have been prepared and made available on the web site of CPCB.
 - (iii) The guidelines for environmental compensation charges (ECC) under e-waste rules have been prepared in December 2020.

- (iv) An online E-Waste Management system has been developed and is operational for registration of the stakeholders involved in management of e-waste. CPCB is granting EPR authorization and PRO registration through this portal.
- (v) An Action Plan is in place for enforcement of the e-waste rules in the country, and is being implemented through State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). SPCBs/PCCs are submitting quarterly progress report as envisaged in the Action Plan through a web portal developed for this purpose.
- (vi) CPCB has issued directions/ notices as and when required from time to time for effective implementation of the rules. CPCB also issued directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 for checking informal e-waste activities, verification of authorized dismantlers/recyclers of E-Waste and drives for mass awareness
- (vii) There are 530 dismantlers/recyclers of e-waste covering 22 states /UTs in the country and having annual processing capacity of 14,89,670.56 tonne.

(b) The generation of e-waste is being estimated based on the sales data and average life of notified electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). The e-waste generated in the country from twenty-one (21) types of EEE notified under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 are broadly classified into two categories namely 'information technology and telecommunication equipment' and 'consumer electrical and electronics equipment' and have been given item codes ITEW1 to ITEW 16 and CEEW1 to CEEW5. The information available is for last three years is given below:

Financial Year	Estimated Generation		
	Information technology and telecommunication equipment (ITEW1 to ITEW16)	Consumer electrical and electronics equipment (CEEW1 to CEEW 5)	Total (Tons)
2018-19	1,13,114.10	6,58,100.90	7,71,215.00
2019-20	1,86,702.61	8,28,258.60	10,14,961.21
2020-21	1,47,295.58	11,99,200.73	13,46,496.31

(c) Informal sector involved in processing of e-waste adopts crude and unscientific methods for extracting valuable material from the e-waste. If un-scientific and crude methods are used for processing for retrieval of useful components or material or if the material is disposed in open, then it may cause health risks and damage to environment. Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, collection and processing of e-waste can be carried out only by producers or their authorised associates/ partners, authorised dismantlers, recyclers and authorised refurbisher.

(d) The management of e-waste in the entire country including Kerala is being regulated under the framework of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. These Rules are effective from 01-10-2016 and have the following specific objectives:

- Extended responsibility to producers to manage a system of E-Waste collection, storage, transportation and environmentally sound dismantling and recycling through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Authorization.
- Promote and encourage establishment of an efficient E-Waste collection mechanism.
- Promote Environmentally Safe & Sound Recycling through authorized dismantlers and recyclers of E-Waste.

- Minimize illegal recycling / recovery operations.
- Reduce Hazardous substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

Further, Ministry has notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 on 2nd November, 2022. These rules will replace E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and will be effective from 1st April, 2023. These rules will launch a new EPR regime for e-waste recycling. All the manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler are required to register on portal developed by CPCB by giving details of manufacturing data, sales data, waste generation, agreements with service providers, RoHS compliance, waste refurbished/ recycled etc. No entity shall carry out any business without registration and also not deal with any unregistered entity.

(e) An action plan is in place for enforcement of e-waste rules across the country. This action plan contains component on mass awareness of general public through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Plan to be framed by State Governments. SPCBs are regularly carrying out mass awareness programs for general public for the management of their e-waste in a proper and scientific manner. Also, in the e-waste rules, the EPR Authorized Producers have been assigned responsibilities for creating awareness through media, publications, advertisements, posters, or by any other means of communication.

(f) The responsibilities/liabilities of manufacturer as well as bulk consumers of EEE have been clearly defined in the of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. As per the rule, following responsibilities have been assigned to manufacturers, producers and bulk consumers:

- (i) **Manufacturers:** Responsible to collect e-waste generated during the manufacture of any electrical and electronic equipment and channelize it for recycling or disposal through authorized dismantlers/recyclers used scientific methods for disposal of e-waste. The manufacturer will also ensure that no damage is caused to the environment during storage and transportation of e-waste;
- (ii) **Producers:** Responsible for implementing the EPR where they have been assigned the responsibility for collection and channelization of e-waste generated from the 'end-of-life' of their products or 'end-of-life' products. Producers are required to create awareness through media, publications, advertisements, posters, or by any other means of communication etc. The producers are also required to maintain records of the e-waste handled and have to file annual returns
- (iii) **Bulk Consumer:** Responsible to ensure that e-waste generated by them is channelized through collection centre or dealer of authorised producer or dismantler or recycler or through the designated take back service provider of the producer to authorised dismantler or recycler;
