

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1997
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

Circular Economy

1997. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has initiated the formation of policy on circular economy as announced in the budget 2022-2023;
- (b) if so, the details of the sectors being prioritised;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure implementation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016; and
- (d) the intent and progress of Mission Lifestyle for Environment announced at UNFCCC COP 26?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b):The Central Government has notified rules on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for four categories of wastes i.e. plastic packaging waste, battery waste, e-waste and waste tyre. These rules promote circular economy principles through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) based market mechanism and have set targets for recycling, recovery and use of recycled content. Also, the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways has notified the Vehicle Scrappage Policy that aims at bringing in circularity in end-of-life vehicle segment.

Ten (10) identified priority waste streams for which Circular Economy Action Plans have been developed include End-of-Life Vehicles, Toxic and Hazardous Industrial Waste, Tyre and Rubber Recycling, Electronics and Electrical Sector, Lithium-ion batteries, Gypsum, Scrap Metal (ferrous & non-ferrous), Solar Panels, Used Oil and Municipal Solid Waste. The aforementioned rules are outcomes of these Circular Action Plans.

(c):The Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 provide the statutory framework for solid waste management in the country. The enforcement of rules is done by the concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Pollution Control Committee through local bodies in their respective jurisdictions.

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, Additional Central Assistance is provided for scientific management of solid waste in both urban and rural areas. Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 has a vision of creating “Garbage Free Cities”. Under this, issues such as source segregation,

collection & transportation, and processing, including effective management of solid waste, plastic waste and remediating all legacy dumpsites, are covered.

Directions have been issued under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to all State Pollution Control Board / Pollution Control Committees for enforcement of bio-mining of legacy waste and management of fire incidents in dumpsites. Separately, Guidelines have also been issued on environmentally sound management of solid waste including disposal of legacy waste and sanitary waste.

(d): Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) announced at UNFCCC COP 26 aims to promote an environmentally conscious lifestyle that focuses on 'mindful and deliberate utilisation' instead of 'mindless and wasteful consumption' by utilising the power of collective action, strengthening social networks, and nudging individuals across the world to undertake simple, climate-friendly actions in their daily lives and influence sustainable social norms.

Awareness generation and outreach activities on Mission LiFE have been undertaken by several Ministries/Departments in order to sensitise the public at large and all stakeholders about the need for mindful utilization instead of mindless consumption of resources.
