GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 696 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022

Management of e-Waste

696. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:

SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:

DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI:

SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment to identify e-waste generated every year in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of e-waste produced during the last two years, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the agencies authorized for their collection;
- (d) the details of the types of side effects speculated on the basis of collection of e-waste, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any policy for e-waste management and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government has a proposal in place to enforce nation-wide uniform charging wires for phones in order to reduce e-waste and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a)to(c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) estimates the e-waste generation at national level based on the countrywide sales data provided by producers, and average life of notified electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), as mandated under the E-waste Management Rules, 2016. The State-wise information on sales and e-waste generation is not available. Accordingly, the e-waste generation from twenty-one (21) types of notified EEE in the financial year 2019-20 and 2020-21 is estimated as 10,14,961.21 Tons and 13,46,496.31 Tons, respectively.

As per the information provided by State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees, there are total 474 authorized dismantling/recycling units in the country for collection and processing of e-waste having cumulative processing capacity of 14,42,561.22 Tons.

- (d) No study has been carried out to assess the side effects of collection of e-waste. The end of life EEE does not cause any harm to health and environment, in case, it is collected and stored safely in households/ stores. However, its unscientific handling and processing for extraction of material can cause health risks and damage to environment.
- (e) The management of e-waste in the Country is regulated under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 at present. The Producers of notified Electrical & Electronic Equipment (EEE), as listed in Schedule I, have the responsibility of disposal of e-waste in a scientific and environmentally sound manner under the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). Annual e-waste collection and recycling targets have been provided to the producers of EEE under EPR regime based on the based on sales of EEE or generation from the previously sold EEE, as the case may be.

Further, Ministry has comprehensively revised the previous set of Rules and notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 on November 02, 2022, which will become effective from 1st April, 2023. These new set of rules will put in place an improved Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime for e-waste recycling wherein all the manufacturer, producer, refurbisher and recycler are required to register on portal developed by CPCB. The registered entities shall be required to provide details of manufacturing data, sales data, waste generation, agreements with service providers, RoHS compliance, and waste refurbished/ recycled etc. Additionally, no entity shall be alloweddealings with any unregistered entity and carry out any business without registration. The new provisionswould facilitate and channelize the informal sector to formal sector for doing business and avail benefit of EPR regime.

(f) There is no proposal at present with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to enforce nation-wide uniform charging wires for phones.
