

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2997
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

E-Waste

2997. SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware in respect of ill-effects caused to mankind due to air pollution being caused by non-scientific disposal of waste burning in the open in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government for disposal of electronic waste in a scientific manner in Uttar Pradesh including Prayagraj district and the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the growing amount of e-Waste (electronic waste) along with the details thereof;
- (d) the number of trucks carrying e-Waste illegally and the traders associated with this industry (which do not have license for scientific disposal of e-Waste), apprehended for the same; and
- (e) the details of the action taken upon them?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Air pollution from different sources, including from non-scientific waste disposal, is one of the triggering factors for respiratory ailments and associated diseases. There is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correlation of death/disease exclusively due to pollution. Health effects of pollution are synergistic manifestation of factors, which include food habits, occupational habits, socio-economic status, medical history, immunity, heredity, etc., of the individuals.
- (b) to (e) Presently, there are 567 authorized dismantlers/recyclers of E-Waste in the country having annual processing capacity of 17,22,624.27 Tonnes. Following steps have been taken by the Government for disposal of electronic waste in a scientific manner in the country including Uttar Pradesh:
 - The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, notified E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 which will be effective from April 1, 2023. The new rules have a robust mechanism of maintaining transparency in management of e-waste. The rules focus on recycling of e-waste. There is a provision of on line portal where all the

stakeholders have to register themselves. No entity can manage e-waste if it is not registered on the portal. The new e-waste rules have proper auditing mechanism with regard to quantity of e-waste recycled through authorized recyclers and purchase of their Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) certificates by producers.

- E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, is in place, where instrument of Extended Producer Responsibility has been introduced for management of E-Waste in the country.
- In the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, under Extended Producer Responsibility regime, a producer is required to get its e-waste managed only through an authorized dismantler or recycler of E-Waste.
- Implementation Guidelines for E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 comprising of nine (9) specific guidelines have been prepared and uploaded on the web site of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- Guidelines for Producer Responsibility Organizations (PRO) have been prepared and uploaded on the website of CPCB.
- An Action Plan is in place for enforcement of the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 in the country, and is being implemented through SPCBs/PCCs. In the said Action plan, checking informal traders, dismantlers, recyclers of e-waste have been taken-up.
- CPCB 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.
- Also under the above said rules, provisions have been made for recognition and registering of workers involved in dismantling and recycling of E-Waste. Under Rule 12(1) of the said rules, State Government has been entrusted with the responsibility to ensure earmarking or allocation of industrial space or shed for E-Waste dismantling and recycling in the existing and upcoming industrial park, estate and industrial clusters.

Instances of unscientific/informal processing of e-waste has been identified in 09 (nine) States/Union Territories so far, including Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Meghalaya, Puducherry, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal. The concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) have taken actions against such informal activities.
