

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 523
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

Recycling of e-waste

523. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:
SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:

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 generation 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) whether the Government is aware that installation of Photovoltaic Solar Panel on large scale will lead to generation of enormous amount of waste in the country in future, if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government has initiated any steps/propose to bring clear policy directives, well-established recycling strategies and infrastructure to handle such waste?

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. As per the information available with CPCB, e-waste generated in the country from twenty-one (21) types of EEE notified under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 in the financial year (FY) 2020-21 and 2021-22 was estimated as 13,46,496.31 Tonnes and 16,01,155.36 tonnes respectively.

Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 collection of e-waste can be done by authorised producers and dismantlers/ recyclers either individually or through their authorized service providers. As per the CPCB, there are 569 authorized dismantlers/recyclers and 2300 authorised producers of e-waste in the country.

(d) Ministry has comprehensively revised the previous set of Rules and notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 in November, 2022 and the same is enforce since 1st April, 2023. These rules notified for environmentally sound management of e-waste generated from electrical and electronic equipment, including solar photo-voltaic (PV) modules or panels or cells. As per these rules, every manufacturer and producer of solar photo-voltaic modules or panels or cells have been mandated to obtain registration, maintain inventory of solar PV modules, store the waste generated from Solar PV modules/panels/cells up to the year 2034-35 as per the guidelines laid down under the rules, file annual returns, comply with Standard Operating Procedures. Further, Recycler of solar photo-voltaic modules or panels or cells shall be mandated for recovery of material as per guidelines laid down by the CPCB.

(e) E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 rules intend to manage e-waste in an environmentally sound manner and put in place an improved Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime for e-waste recycling. These rules promote Circular Economy through EPR regime and scientific recycling/disposal of the e-waste. Further State Government or Union territories have been given responsibility for ensuring 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. Presently, there are 569 authorized dismantlers/ recyclers of e-waste in the country having annual processing capacity of 17,90,348.27 MT.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has amended the existing Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS) to provide support for setting up of state-of-art e-waste recycling facilities for extraction of precious metals from e-waste components. The scheme envisioned for financial incentive of 25% on capital expenditure.
