GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 682 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

e-waste

682. SHRI BALAK NATH: SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

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

- (a) whether there is any estimate of e-waste generated in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the action taken by the Government against the violators of the provisions of the e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to reduce the number of the persons engaged in recycling/dismantling of e-waste in the country drastically specially in Rajasthan during the last three years;
- (d) whether as per the e-waste management law, the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board have to conduct random checks on the registered companies on e-waste collection/ recycling targets; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof the random checks that have been conducted by the Government so far in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) 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 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.
- (b) & (c) Based on the inspections carried out by CPCB and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), violation of E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 was reported in case of ten (10) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Authorised Producers. Accordingly, in April 2019, their EPR Authorisation were suspended. SPCBs verified more than 400 collection centers of these ten (10) producers submitted its verification reports to CPCB. Suspension of EPR authorisation was later revoked in case of eight (08) producers on the basis of corrective measures taken by them and their verification. Further, CPCB in January 2020 carried out inspection of three authorized dismantlers and recyclers in the State of Uttar Pradesh and they were found to be violating E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and Implementation Guidelines for E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. Accordingly, CPCB issued direction under section 18(1)(b) of the Water

(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 to Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board in May, 2020 for taking action against them. In September 2022 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 to all SPCBs/PCCs. The Government has not taken any step to reduce the number of the persons engaged in recycling/dismantling of e-waste in the country rather proposes to promote recycling sector.

(d) & (e) 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. As per the provision of these rules, CPCB has to conduct random check for ascertaining compliance of the e-waste rules and may take help of Customs/ State Government or any other agency (ies) and SPCBs/PCCs have to conduct random inspection of recycler and refurbisher and monitor recycling capacity utilization. Following inspections/ verifications have been carried out in recent years by CPCB/SPCBs/PCCs:

- The Regional Directorate Bhopal, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Vadodara and Lucknow of CPCB carried inspections/ verifications of 33 dismantlers and recyclers during March to May 2019.
- In the year 2019, based on the directions of CPCB for compliance verification of dismantler/ Recyclers, 17 SPCBs/PCCs inspected around two hundred and sixty-three (263) dismantling and recycling facilities.
- In the Year 2018, CPCB directed all SPCBs/PCCs to carry out verification of dismantlers/ Recyclers. Based on the reports submitted, 09 SPCBs/PCCs have inspected around 167 dismantlers & recycler.
- An Action Plan for enforcement of E-Waste (Management) Rules, across the country is in place and is being implemented by all the SPCBs)/PCCs. The Action Plan contains action points on inspections of dismantlers/ recycler, verification of facilities of producers and also checking informal e-waste units. During financial year (FY) 2019-20, total 22 SPCBs/PCCs have carried out inspection of 227 dismantlers/ recyclers and 608 E-Waste Collection centers to verify compliance of the rules.
