GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2348 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

Management of e-Waste

2348. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR: SHRI VINAYAK RAUT:

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

- (a) the details of e-Waste generated during the last two years, State-wise along with the details of e-Waste generated in Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any scheme/mechanism for disposal of e-Waste;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any measure for providing additional medical assistance to the workers engaged in e-Waste management; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason 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. 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 during the last two years is given below:

| Financial Year | E-Waste Generation (in Metric Tonnes) |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | 13,46,496.31 |
| 2021-22 | 16,01,155.36 |

As per information provided by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), the e-waste generation in the state of Maharashtra during the last two years is given below:

| Financial Year | E-Waste Generation (in Metric Tonnes) |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | 37,099.062 |
| 2021-22 | 83,086.40 |

The steps taken to manage the e-waste are as follows:

➤ Ministry has comprehensively revised the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 and notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 in November, 2022 and the same is in force since 1st April, 2023. The Rules covers 106 types of EEE listed in the Schedule-I of the said rules. The rules intend to manage e-waste in an environmentally sound manner and are based on the principal of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). Under EPR regime, the obligation has

- been assigned to the Producers of Electrical & Electronic Equipment (EEE) in terms of recycling targets of EEE generated by them.
- 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 w.r.t quantity of e-waste recycled through authorized recyclers and purchase of their EPR certificates by producers. The EPR portal is operational.
- The Extended Producer Responsibility is regulated through market based approach where Producers are required to fulfil their EPR obligations by purchasing online EPR certificates only from recyclers registered on the EPR Portal. The recyclers of e-waste in turn are issued EPR certificates through the EPR Portal on the basis of e-waste recycled and end product produced by them.
- An Action Plan is in place for management of E-Waste 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 as one of the action points. Drives for identification of informal activities are to be done by all the SPCBs along with district administration of the State.
- Actions, such as, constitution of teams for carrying out drives, issuing of notices, closure of operation, seizing the E-Waste against the informal processing are being taken by the SPCBs/PCCs.
- ➤ 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, 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.
- (d) & (e) As per E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 sub rule 10(2), Department of Labor in the State and Union territory or any other government agency authorised in this regard by the State Government or the Union territory, as the case may be, shall;
 - i. Ensure recognition and registration of workers involved in dismantling and recycling;
 - ii. Assist formation of groups of such workers to facilitate setting up of dismantling facilities;
 - iii. Undertake industrial skill development activities for the workers involved in dismantling and recycling;
 - iv. Undertake annual monitoring and to ensure safety and health of workers involved in dismantling and recycling.
