SAFE DISPOSAL OF EV BATTERIES

351. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that Electric Vehicles (EV) battery life is 6-7 years after which it needs to be recycled which is complex as the battery contains many toxic materials that are tough to dispose of;

(b) if so, the guidelines introduced by the Government to ensure safe disposal of EV batteries;

(c) whether it is also true that EVs in the country are said to increase pollution as the batteries are charged from coal-generated electricity;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase renewable energy sources for EVs in the country;

(e) whether the Government plans to mandate standardised charging port for electric scooters as otherwise, each maker has to set up separate charging infrastructure across the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES

(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b): Sir, as per the information received from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India notified the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022 on 22nd August, 2022 to ensure environmentally sound management of waste batteries including waste batteries from Electric Vehicles.

Under the rules, Producers including importers of batteries have been prescribed Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) targets for collection and recycling/refurbishment of waste batteries. Public Waste Management Authorities have been mandated to hand over collected waste batteries to the producers or agencies acting on their behalf or the entity engaged in refurbishment or recycling activities.

All entities involved in collection, segregation and treatment of waste batteries have been mandated to hand these over to registered refurbishers or recyclers. Consumer have been provided responsibility to discard waste batteries separately from other waste streams especially from mixed waste, domestic waste streams.

(c): No Sir.

(d): Does not arise in respect of part (c) of the reply.

(e) & (f): Sir, no such plan is under consideration in the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

******