

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1910
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2021

Burning of Waste/Garbage

1910. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the pollution being caused by burning of waste/garbage in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there exists technical alternatives to burn garbage under controlled conditions by treating toxic gases with output produced for making bricks and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to utilize innovation of scientific institutions to provided village level solutions to such problems; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

(a) and (b): The Ministry has notified the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended for solid waste management across the country. Under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, the responsibility of implementation is vested in the States and Municipal Authorities. The SWM Rules, have specific provisions dealing with burning of wastes. It is stipulated under the Rules, that no waste generator shall throw, burn or bury the solid waste generated by him, on streets, open public spaces outside his premises or in the drain or water bodies. Further, these Rules cast specific duties and responsibilities on local bodies and Village Panchayats, wherein *inter alia* they have to ensure that open burning of garbage does not take place. The street sweepers are also to be directed not to burn tree leaves collected from street sweeping.

As per available information, steps have been taken by respective State Government/Union Territory Administration and State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee, through urban local bodies and village panchayats, where required, to stop burning of garbage.

(c) to (e): As per Rules, local authorities and village Panchayats, have to facilitate setting up of solid waste processing facilities and associated infrastructure, for optimum utilization of various

components of solid waste by adopting suitable technology including the technologies given below and adhering to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs from time to time and as per standards prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board.

- i. bio-methanation, microbial composting, vermi-composting, anaerobic digestion or any other appropriate processing for bio-stabilisation of biodegradable wastes and
- ii. waste to energy processes including refused derived fuel for combustible fraction of waste or supply as feedstock to solid waste based power plants or cement kilns

Preference shall be given to decentralised processing to minimize transportation cost and environmental impacts. Through the Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2020, villages with population more than 3000 have been brought under the ambit of the Rules for solid waste management in villages.
