

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 910
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 23.07.2021

Biomedical Waste

910. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

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

- (a) whether the amount of biomedical waste has seen a significant increase since the COVID-19 pandemic in March, 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to effectively and safely handle such biomedical waste from damaging the soil, water and air; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

- (a)&(b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has informed that the non-COVID waste generated in the country during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 is estimated to be 531 Tons/Day(TPD), 608 TPD and 615 TPD respectively, based on the information provided by State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/ PCCs). Further, incremental BMW was generated during treatment, diagnosis and quarantine of COVID-19 infected or suspected patients from healthcare facilities, quarantine centres/ camps, sample collection centres, laboratories, home care/home isolations etc.

As per the information compiled through COVID19 BWM app, a total of 56,898.14 Tons of COVID-19 infected waste was generated between June-2020 to June-2021. The State/ UT-wise information on non-COVID and COVID-19 BMW is provided as below:

States/ Union Territories	Non-COVID-19 BMW (in Tons/ Annum)			COVID-19 BMW (in Tons)
	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	
Andaman Nicobar	0.7	0.2	0.2	4.0
Andhra Pradesh	15.1	15.1	10.7	2877.5
Arunachal Pradesh	0.4	0.9	0.6	34.8
Assam	8.8	7.8	8.6	337.4
Bihar	34.8	34.8	33.8	336.0

States/ Union Territories	Non-COVID-19 BMW (in Tons/ Annum)			COVID-19 BMW (in Tons)
	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	
Chandigarh	3.9	3.2	2.5	671.4
Chhattisgarh	7.1	16.1	1.1	381.4
Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.3	0.3	0.3	14.1
Delhi	28.8	26.8	24.7	3995.3
Goa	1.5	1.8	0.9	124.2
Gujarat	36.4	33.7	29.1	5004.9
Haryana	14.8	14.2	11.7	3025.3
Himachal Pradesh	3.4	2.6	3.0	414.3
Jharkhand	7.7	12.8	12.5	543.0
J & K	5.9	4.5	4.6	136.6
Karnataka	77.5	65.6	67.3	3133.6
Kerala	42.9	72.0	41.0	6442.2
Lakshadweep	0.1	0.5	0.4	3.6
Madhya Pradesh	17.8	15.8	14.8	2462.8
Maharashtra	62.3	62.4	61.9	8317.0
Manipur	1.0	1.1	0.5	56.5
Meghalaya	1.3	1.4	1.1	92.2
Mizoram	0.9	0.8	0.7	29.2
Nagaland	0.9	0.6	0.6	34.1
Odisha	18.0	14.6	14.2	1642.9
Puducherry	5.9	4.3	5.4	428.4
Punjab	16.1	16.0	15.2	1289.1
Rajasthan	20.7	22.3	22.5	1382.8
Sikkim	0.5	0.4	0.2	36.6
Tamil Nadu	58.3	47.2	46.8	4835.9
Telangana	20.5	16.2	15.7	1109.7
Tripura	1.4	1.4	1.6	7.6
Uttarakhand	3.8	4.1	2.9	683.4
Uttar Pradesh	52.5	52.5	43.6	3881.7
West Bengal	41.6	34.1	29.8	3128.9
Total	615	608	531	56898.4

It is noted from above data that the BMW generation has been increasing over past three years.

- (c)&(d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) had notified the Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016 (BMWM Rules, 2016) under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which stipulates source segregation of the Bio-Medical waste (BMW) into four categories. The Rules also stipulate technological options available to treat the source-segregated waste categories and prescribe standards for incinerator stack emission, treated effluent, autoclave/ microwave/ hydroclave and chemical disinfection.

The SPCBs/ PCCs issue authorisation to Healthcare Facilities (HCFs)/ Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facility operators and monitor them for compliance of

prescribed standards of emissions, liquid effluents and waste. The CPCB has prepared following guidelines on segregation, treatment and disposal of BMW:

- Management of Healthcare Waste in HCFs as per Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016;
- Guidelines for Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facilities; and
- Handling, Treatment and Disposal of Waste Generated during Treatment/Diagnosis/ Quarantine of COVID-19 Patients
