

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1859
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 14.03.2022

Disposal of Medical Waste

1859. SHRI SANJAY SETH:
SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

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

- (a) whether there is a large amount of medical waste in the country and if so, whether its quantity has increased even more during the corona transition period;
- (b) whether any information or data is available with the Government to ascertain the quantity of medical waste collected per annum in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has released biomedical waste guidelines for COVID wastes and if so, the details of the number of violations that has occurred under these guidelines along with State-wise classification of the same;
- (d) the number of Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facility (CBWTF) in the country along with the State-wise classification of the same;
- (e) the channels incorporated by States without CBWTF in disposing Bio-medical waste along with the plan for the disposal of the Medical-waste;
- (f) the safeguards afforded to the manual scavengers and waste collectors during the COVID crisis; and
- (g) whether the allocation for research on different methods of waste treatment, to assess and improve their sustainability and efficacy has been made by the Government and if so, the details thereof if not, the reasons therefor?

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) compiles country-wide annual data of bio-medical waste (BMW) generation, collection and treatment based on the annual reports submitted by respective State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/ PCCs). About 656 Tons/Day (TPD) of BMW was generated in the year 2020, out of which 590 TPD was collected and treated by the Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment facilities (CBWTFs). Further, about 84.61 TPD of incremental COVID-19 BMW was generated between May 2020 to February 2022 in the country from healthcare facilities, quarantine centres/ camps, sample collection centres, laboratories, home care/ home isolations centres engaged in treatment, diagnosis and quarantine of COVID-19 infected or suspected patients.
- (c) The CPCB had issued “Guidelines for Handling, treatment and disposal of waste generated during treatment, diagnostics and quarantine of COVID-19 patients” in

March, 2020 and developed an application namely, COVID19BWM to track the generation and treatment of COVID-19 BMW at CBWTFs. There are no reported cases of violation of Guidelines; however, the CPCB has issued notices to 33 nos. of CBWTFs across the country for not reporting data on COVID19BWM, as mentioned below:

- Fifteen (15) in Karnataka
 - Five (5) in Maharashtra
 - Two (2) CBWTFs each in Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana
 - One (1) each in Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh
- (d) There are 208 Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs) operational in the country for treatment and disposal of Bio-medical Waste (BMW) as per the information furnished by SPCBs/ PCCs for the year 2020. The State/ UT-wise details are Annexed.
- (e) There are no operational CBWTFs in nine (9) States/ Union Territories. The BMW treatment and disposal in these areas is done through captive treatment facilities operated by healthcare facilities themselves.
- (f) To ensure safety of workers engaged in BMW handling and collection, the CPCB guidelines on “Handling, treatment and disposal of waste generated during treatment, diagnostics and quarantine of COVID-19 patients” prescribe for regular sanitization and provision of adequate personal protective equipment like three layer masks, splash proof aprons/gowns, nitrile gloves, gum boots and safety goggles.
- (g) The Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016 (BMWM Rules, 2016) notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, (MoEFCC) stipulates source segregation of BMW into four categories and prescribe category-specific effective technological options like incineration, autoclaving, microwaving, hydroclaving and chemical disinfection. The BMWM Rules, 2016 also include provisions to adopt new technologies for BMW treatment, after validation. Further, the MoEFCC is also implementing a central sector scheme to provide financial support to innovative research projects aimed at environmentally sound management of waste, including BMW.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1859 DUE FOR REPLY ON 14/03/2022 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL WASTE' RAISED BY HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT SHRI SANJAY SETH AND SHRI JAYADEV GALLA

State-wise details of Operational CBWTFs in India

Name of the State/Union Territory	Operational CBWTFs
Andaman Nicobar	Nil
Andhra Pradesh	12
Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
Assam	1
Bihar	4
Chandigarh	1
Chhattisgarh	4
Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil
Delhi	2
Goa	Nil
Gujarat	20
Haryana	11
Himachal Pradesh	3
Jharkhand	4
Jammu & Kashmir	3
Karnataka	25
Kerala	1
Ladakh	Nil
Lakshadweep	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	12
Maharashtra	30
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	1
Mizoram	Nil
Nagaland	Nil
Odisha	6
Puducherry	1
Punjab	5
Rajasthan	11
Sikkim	Nil
Tamil Nadu	10
Telangana	11
Tripura	Nil
Uttarakhand	2
Uttar Pradesh	21
West Bengal	6
Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)	Nil
Total	208

(Source:CPCB)
