

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2819
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.05.2016

DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE

2819. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has received requests from universities, institutions, hospitals and other departments for inspection and assistance for disposal of their radioactive wastes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to engage any agency to monitor radioactive bio-waste in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The unsealed sources used in hospitals, universities have short half-lives ranging from few minutes to few days and pose low potential hazard from radiological safety view point. Depending upon the quantities/volumes, the radioactivity in the waste generated from such applications, is either allowed to decay or diluted to a level below Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) prescribed limits for safe disposal by the institution itself. In case of sealed radioactive sources, no radioactive waste is normally generated in their handling, except for some isolated cases. Once the institution finds the sealed radioactive sources no longer useful for the purpose for which it was procured, they are transported back to the supplier for safe management.
