

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:184  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2000  
MANAGEMENT OF HOSPITAL WASTE AND GARBAGE  
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether his Ministry had issued any guidelines to the State Governments regarding proper management of the garbage and bio-medical waste of the hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the measures taken by the State Governments are not satisfactory;
- (d) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take any effective measure in this direction;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (f) Ministry of Environment & Forests have notified the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 on 20.07.1998 which provide for regulation of generation, collection, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste. These rule apply to all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose or handle bio-medical waste in any form. In accordance with the rules, every occupier, wherever required, has to set up requisite bio-medical waste treatment facilities like incinerator, autoclave, microwave system for the treatment of waste, or ensure requisite treatment of waste at a common waste treatment facility or any other waste treatment facility in accordance with time schedule given in the Schedule VI of the Rules. The copy of the Rules was circulated to all States/Union Territories in September 1998 and broad provisions thereof were circulated to all States/Union Territories in October, 1998.

Ministry of Environment & Forests has informed that 21 States/Union Territories have constituted Advisory Committee for proper implementation of the Bio-medical Waste (management & Handling) Rules, 1998. As the extended deadline date of 30th June, 2000 to initiate treatment and disposal of bio-medical wastes for towns with a population of 30 lakhs and above and others having hospitals with 500 beds and more is already over, the States/Union Territories have been requested by Ministry of Environment & Forests to ensure that the above rules are strictly enforced.

In May 2000, the Ministry of health & Family Welfare has requested all States/Union Territories to take necessary steps to implement Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 in letter and spirit and to ensure that Rules are complied with and to set up inspection procedures to ensure that disposable items are segregated and treated properly, before disposal so that the same are rendered unusable.