

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000  
POLLUTION IN METROPOLITAN CITIES  
SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government propose to evolve a solid waste management policy in order to arrest increasing environment pollution specially in metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) & (b): The Government of India has no proposal at the moment to evolve a solid waste management policy. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests have brought out draft Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules on 27th September, 1999. These Rules have been widely circulated to seek suggestions and objections from public before their finalisation. The Rules prescribe procedures for proper collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes including specifications for landfill sites and standards for composting and leachate collection. Solid Waste Management is a state subject and is one of the important obligatory functions of urban local bodies who have to take necessary steps in accordance with the above procedures to arrest environmental pollution in metropolitan and other cities.