

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5449

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

E-WASTE

Ajmal Shri Badruddin;Patel Shri R.K. Singh;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Singh Shri Uday Pratap;Singh Dr. Sanjay;Sugumar Shri K. ;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether hazardous and e-waste are posing a great threat to public health and environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of hazardous/e-waste generated annually;
- (c) whether e-waste so generated is recycled or re-used by the agencies/units authorised by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether a UN report has also pointed out that developing countries are the worst affected;
- (f) if so, the salient features of the report and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (g) the mechanism in place to monitor the units which generate hazardous wastes; and
- (h) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (h): The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, for proper management and handling of hazardous wastes including e-waste. As per information provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), there are 36,165 hazardous waste generating industries in the country, generating about 6.2 million MT hazardous waste every year, of which Landfillable waste is 2.7 million MT, Incinerable million 0.41 MT and Recyclable Hazardous Waste million 3.08 MT. Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is estimated that 1.47 lakh MT of e-waste was generated in the country in the year 2005, which is expected to increase to about 8.00 lakh MT by 2012.

The UNEP report of July 2009 titled "Recycling- From E-waste to Resources" has analysed issues related to e-waste including market potential of recycling of e-waste and transfer of innovative technologies for selected 11 countries, including India.

As per these Rules, units handling hazardous wastes including e-waste are required to register with CPCB. The segregated waste is required to be sent or sold to a registered or authorized recycler or re-processor or re-user having environmentally sound facilities for recovery of metals, plastics, etc. Industries involved in recycling or reprocessing the hazardous waste are required to obtain Consent to Operate as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and an authorization under the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 from the respective State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or the Pollution Control Committee (PCC). The compliance status for conditions laid down in the authorization is monitored by the respective SPCB/PCC.