GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:650 ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010 DISPOSAL OF WASTE M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Suvendu Shri Adhikari;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

(a) whether increasing hazardous waste, e-waste and household waste in the country are posing a great threat to environment and public health;

(b) if so, the quantum of these wastes generated during the last three years;

(c) whether the policies/schemes the Government made so far for disposal of these wastes have not achieved the desired results;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the further action the Government proposes to take for safe disposal of these wastes?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is estimated that generation of hazardous wastes and municipal solid wastes in the country is about 6.2 lakh MT per annum and 0.573 million MT per day. Annual generation of e-waste in the year 2005 was about 1.47 lakh MT. This is expected to increase to about 8.0 lakh MT by 2012.

(c) to (e) Government of India has taken a number of initiatives to address issues related to disposal of wastes. The Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 and the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 have been notified for proper management of hazardous wastes, including e-waste, and municipal solid waste respectively. Collection, segregation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes and municipal solid waste are required to be undertaken in accordance with these rules. The Government encourages setting up of Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDFs) on Public Private Partnership mode in clusters of hazardous waste generating industries. 25 TSDFs have so far been set up and 8 are under construction. The Ministry of Urban Development is implementing the Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for providing assistance to the State Governments/ Urban Local Bodies for various projects including solid waste management. The Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste published by CPCB in 2008 provide the approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste. The Guidelines emphasize the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility.