

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5509
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010
IMPORT OF E-WASTE
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large consignments of e-waste are coming to India from developed countries in the form of second hand computers, laptops through donations made to educational schools, registered charitable hospitals, public library and community information centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether DGFT has made some amendments in the Law prohibiting e-waste import;
- (d) if so, the present provisions in various acts regarding import of e-waste in the country by NGOs and other agencies; and
- (e) if so, the details regarding number of such consignment confiscated at different ports by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (e): The Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, have been notified for proper management and handling of hazardous waste including e-waste. As per these Rules, import of such wastes for dumping is not permitted. The Government has stopped the free import of second hand computers, laptops and computers peripherals as donations by Schools, Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals, Public Libraries, Public funded Research and Development Establishments, Community Information Centre, Adult Education Centre and Organization of Central or State Government or a Union Territory. This was notified under Public Notice No. 62/2009-2014 dated 13th May, 2010. In the specific cases where Customs detect import of goods in violation of the existing provisions, they are empowered to seize the goods and initiate penal action under the provisions of Customs Act, 1962 read with other Allied Acts.