GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:215 ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011 DISPOSAL OF E-WASTE Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) the quantum of e-waste generated annually in each State/Union Territory;
- (b) the quantum of such waste recycled in the country annually;
- (c) whether any study was conducted in regard to generation and recycling of e-waste with the country and those in some Western and Asian countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the Government's reaction thereto;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to seek international assistance for disposal of e- waste; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and other measures taken by the Government for disposal of e-waste?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (f) 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. This is expected to increase to about 8.0 lakh MT by 2012.

Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab are among top ten states generating about 70% of total e-waste. There are about 46 authorized and registered e-waste recyclers with recycling capacity of about 2.17 lakh MTA of e-waste.

No study has been conducted with regard to generation and recycling of e-waste in Western and Asian countries.

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. The Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste published by CPCB provide the approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has published E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2011 on 12th May, 2011. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) has been enshrined in these rules to make EPR a mandatory activity associated with the production of electronic and electrical equipments. The Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environment protection strategy that makes the producer responsible for the entire life cycle of the product, especially for take back, recycling and final disposal of the product.

There is no proposal to seek international assistance for disposal of e-waste.