

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:830
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011
DISPOSAL OF HOSPITAL WASTAGE
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the disposing off of the hospital wastage has become a difficult task for the hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has instructed all the hospitals to ensure timely disposal of hospital wastage and to employ scientific method to dispose off hospital wastage; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c): Health being a state subject, it is the primary responsibility of the State Government concerned to take all necessary steps for proper management and disposal of Bio-medical waste as per guidelines etc. laid down for this purpose.

In so far as the three Central Government Hospitals namely Dr. R.M.L Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and LHMC and Associated Hospitals are concerned, they are disposing off their biomedical waste as per the prescribed BMW rules.

The Government of India has notified Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules in 1998, as amended in the years 2000 & 2003, to provide a regulatory framework for segregation, transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of the bio-medical waste generated from the Health Care Facilities (HCFs) in the country so as to avoid adverse impact on human health and environment.

National Guidelines on Hospital waste Management based on Bio-medical waste (Management & Handling) Rules were developed by this Ministry and circulated to all States/Union Territories in 2002 for implementation.

In addition, a National Policy Document and Operational Guidelines for Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres have also been developed by this Ministry in 2007, for implementation of Infection Management and Environment Plan (IMEP) under Reproductive and Child Health Programme phase-II, to address the issues relating to infection control and waste management.

Hospitals and health centres are required to follow the above mentioned rules and guidelines for waste management. As per the rules, no untreated Biomedical waste shall be kept stored beyond a period of 48 hours.

Hospitals can also dispose off their Biomedical waste through Common Biomedical waste Treatment facilities. As per the information provided by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), there are 182 Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTF) in various towns and cities which are facilitating Biomedical waste treatment to healthcare facilities. The CBWTFs have been installed with the treatment facilities like incinerator, autoclave, microwave, shredders etc.