

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:833

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012

E-WASTE (MANAGEMENT AND HANDLING) RULES, 2011

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

- (a) whether the E-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 has come into effect after one year of its notification;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the manner by which the above new notification is likely to check the import of hazardous E-waste in the country; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 on 12th May, 2011, which will come in to effect from 1st May 2012. 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. Producers will be responsible for collection of e-waste generated from the end of life of their products by setting up collection centers or take back systems either individually or collectively. One year's time has been given to the producers/manufacturers, etc. for setting up of take back systems and necessary infrastructure for management and handling of e-waste.

(c) and (d) Import and export of E-waste is regulated under the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008. Import of e-waste is permitted only for recycling or recovery or reuse with the permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. As per these Rules, the Customs authorities are required to draw random samples and issue directions for re-export in case of violation of Hazardous Wastes Rules.

For effective implementation of provisions related to import and export, a co- ordination committee has been constituted including representatives from the Ministry of Finance (Department. of Revenue), the Ministry of Commerce and Industries (DGFT), the Ministry of Shipping (Department. of Ports), the Central Pollution Control Board and select State Pollution Control Boards. This committee has been working to sensitize the Customs authorities regarding enforcement of Hazardous Wastes Rules in order to check illegal import of E-waste into the country.