

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6177  
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012  
MANAGEMENT OF E WASTE  
Tewari Shri Manish

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

- (a) the quantum of e-waste imported and generated in the country during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to reduce the intake of e-waste in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government provides any assistance for an effective management of e-waste;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken to increase awareness related to possible health hazards production and disposal of e-waste in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is estimated that 1.47 lakh Metric Tons (MT) of e-waste was generated in the country in the year 2005, which is expected to increase to about 8.00 lakh MT by 2012.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008. Import and export of e-waste are regulated under these rules. Import of such wastes for disposal is not permitted. Import is permitted only for recycling or recovery or reuse with the permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and/or Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Permission for import and export of e-waste is considered only by those recycling units, which have environmentally sound recycling facilities and are registered with State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/ Pollution Control Committee (PCC) concerned. The Ministry has, in the past, given permission for export of e-waste by these registered recycling units and import of 8000 MT of e-waste to only one such unit for recycling.

For effective implementation of provisions related to import and export, a co-ordination committee has been constituted having 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 these Rules in order to check illegal import of E-waste into the country.

(d) & (e) The Ministry is implementing a Scheme for setting up Integrated recycling facility for E-waste on public private partnership mode. Under the scheme, financial assistance up to 25 % of the total cost of the project can be provided subject to matching grant by the State Government. The ceiling for contribution by the Central Government is Rs. 12.5 crores. In case of North Eastern States, the ceiling amount is Rs. 25.00 crores.

(f) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken a number of steps to ensure environmentally sound management of e-waste in the country. Separate E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 have been notified on 12th May, 2011. These Rules have come in to effect from 1st May 2012. The Ministry is creating awareness by having interaction with stakeholders including industrial associations, SPCBs, PCCs and Civil Societies, etc. about their responsibilities and is also organising workshops/seminars through CPCB and SPCBs.

The Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste, published by Central Pollution Control Board, provide approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste.