

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2396
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
RECYCLING OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the plastic being used for packaging of mineral water is not recommended to be recycled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any record the amount of plastic is being used in packaging of mineral water and the percentage of plastic out of the same is recycled;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government check this practice?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Packaged mineral water is supplied in plastic bottles which inter-alia are made from Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET). After use, these bottles can be recycled as per Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) guidelines. According to a survey by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2008, consumption of plastic products in India was 8 million tonnes per year. The major plastic products include plastic packaging films, carry bags, containers, cups, plates, spoons, trays etc. Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have provisions for plastic waste management, wherein municipal authorities are responsible for setting up, operationalisation and coordination of the waste management system and for performing the associated functions such as collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste.