

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3678
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
TOXIC WASTE FROM USE OF CFL
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a). whether the Government has assessed the quantity of toxic mercuric waste generated by the use of mercury lamps including Compact Flourscent light (CFL) and Flourscent Tube Light (FTL);
- (b). if so, the details thereof;
- (c). whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the States wherein they have been asked to promote setting up of recycling units for toxic mercuric waste;
- (d). if so, the details thereof and the names of the States which have issued guidelines in this regard;
- (e). whether the Government has asked to present a report regarding status of the said work;
- (f). if so, whether the Government proposes to formulate new schemes for safe disposal of these wastes by providing incentives to the users in the country; and
- (g). if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)to (g): As per the estimates by a Technical Committee under the Chairmanship of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2009, mercury to the tune of 8.0 tonnes per annum is consumed for manufacturing compact flourscent lamps (CFLs) and flourscent tube lights (FTLs) in India. CPCB has published the guidelines, namely "Technical Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Mercury Management in Fluorescent Lamps Sector" in February, 2010.

Ministry of Environment and Forests and CPCB have written to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to encourage establishment of recycling units so that the fused CFLs and FTLs are properly collected and the mercury is recovered and recycled scientifically and safely. An Inter-Ministerial Sub-group has been constituted to address the issues for collection, recycling and safe disposal of end-of-life mercury bearing lamps, including CFL and FTL.