

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012
DISPOSAL OF E-WASTE
Bhujbal Shri Sameer

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

- (a) the quantum of waste emitted by electrical and electronic appliances in the country;
- (b) the names of States which are the major generators of e-waste in the country; and
- (c) the details of rules framed by the Government to dispose-off e-waste in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in the year 2005, it was estimated that 1.47 lakh MT per annum of e-waste was generated in the country. This is expected to increase to about 8.0 lakh MT by 2012. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab are among the top ten states generating about 70% of the total e-waste.

(c) : The Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have come into effect from 1st May 2012. The salient features of these Rules are as follows:-

(i) These Rules are applicable to the e-waste generated from IT and telecommunication equipment and Consumer electrical and electronics i.e. Television sets (including LCD & LED), Refrigerator, Washing Machine and Air-conditioners.

(ii) 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. This means that the 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.

(iii) Producers are required to finance, and organize a system to meet the costs involved in the environmentally sound management of e-waste generated from the 'end of life' of their own products and the historical waste available on the date from which these rules came in to force. The producer may choose to establish such a system either individually or by joining a collective scheme.

(iv) Collection Centers can be set up by producer or by any person or agency or association for the purpose of collecting e-waste. These centers will have to obtain authorization from SPCBs/ PCCs and file annual returns with regards to e-waste collected and its disposal.

(v) Based on the globally accepted standard, the rules prescribe threshold limits for six hazardous substances used in manufacture of electrical and electronics components. Producers are expected to achieve reduction in use of the hazardous substance to the prescribed limit within a period of two years from the date of commencement of these rules.

(vi) Urban Local Bodies (Municipal Committees/ Councils/ Corporations) are required to ensure that e-waste, if found to be mixed with municipal solid waste, is properly segregated, collected and channelized to either authorized collection centers or dismantlers or recyclers. These agencies are also required to collect e-waste generated from orphan products.

(vii) Registration of Dismantlers and Recyclers with State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) has been made mandatory. SPCBs, on being satisfied that the applicant is utilizing environmentally sound technologies to reprocess e-waste, may grant registration initially for two years and thereafter depending upon the performance, it may be renewed further for a period of five years.

(viii) To restrict hoarding of certain components of e-waste, the maximum storage period for e-waste has been restricted to 180 days.

(ix) These Rules empower Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), SPCBs and PCCs to control, supervise and regulate the relevant activities connected with e-waste management such as collection, segregation, dismantling and recycling.

(x) Producers, collection centers, dismantlers and recyclers are required to submit annual returns to the SPCB concerned. Subsequently, SPCBs/ PCCs are to submit annual reports to CPCB.