

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1773

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013

DISPOSAL OF BIO MEDICAL WASTE .

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Kumar Shri P.;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Patel Shri Devji;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of hospitals in the country do not have sewage treatment plant and arrangement for disposal of bio-medical waste in the hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the action taken by the Government against each of the hospitals;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for hospitals to set up sewage treatment plant so that waste material is not released by the hospital which is poisonous as reported by WHO; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 for management of bio-medical waste generated by the Health Care Facilities (HCFs) in the country. The hospitals, which are either connected with sewers without terminal sewage treatment plant or not connected to the public sewers, are required to meet the standards for liquid waste prescribed under these Rules. For discharge into public sewers with the terminal facilities, the general standards as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are required to be met.

The Central Pollution Control Board has written to all State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees to examine the need for requirement of an effluent treatment plant by any HCF on case-to-case basis in order to meet the prescribed standards and to issue 'No Objection Certificate' or authorization under the aforesaid Rules by imposing suitable conditions to the HCF for ensuring proper treatment and disposal of liquid waste generated from the HCF.

National Guidelines on Hospital Waste Management, which are based on the aforesaid rules, have been issued to all States/ Union Territories by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW). These guidelines have been included in the Indian Public Health Standards for HCFs as revised in the year 2012. The MoH&FW has also released a National Policy Document and Operational Guidelines for Community Health Centers, Primary Health Centers and Sub-centers for proper bio-medical waste management.