

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3517

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017

Disposal of e-Waste

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of toxic e-waste of disposable nature is being stored in all the power firms across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has asked the power firms to dispose off the e-wastes without damaging the environment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of power firms thereto?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) & (b) Information is not available about the storage of toxic E-waste of disposable nature by the power firms in the country with the Ministry. Nevertheless power generating units have deployment of electronic and electrical equipment of various vintage which would attain end-of-life and turn into e-waste. As per extant provisions of E-Waste (Management) Rules 2016, all the power firms being bulk consumers of electronic and electrical equipment are obliged to dispose of e-waste in the prescribed manner by handing over to authorized collection centers only. In pursuance of the directions of National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) have jointly inspected twenty installations of power distribution companies and reported non availability of any stock of e-waste except at Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited, Mangolpuri.

(c) & (d) The Government has not issued any specific directions to power firms to dispose of the e-waste. However, E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 were notified in March, 2016 for providing environmentally sound systems for disposal of e-waste. The provisions of these Rules include dedicated extended producers' responsibility (EPR), setting up of producer responsibility organizations and e-waste exchanges to facilitate collection and recycling, assigning specific responsibility to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal, providing for economic incentives for collection of electronic waste, and other measures which include responsibility of producers of electronic and electrical products for collection and channelizing of electronic waste. The power firms are the bulk consumers of the electrical and electronic equipments. As per the provisions of the E-Waste management Rules, 2016 such companies are required to maintain records and file annual report to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.
