

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2051
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2021

Obsolescence of Electronic Products/Goods

2051. SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that planned obsolescence by electronic manufacturers shortens the lifespan of electronic products and is worsening the growing problem of electronic waste (e-waste) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the action plan proposed by the Government to tackle the problem of planned obsolescence of electronic products; and
- (c) the current guidelines in place, if any, regarding repair, warranty, and quality of electronic goods sold in the Indian market?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) Government is not aware if obsolescence is being planned by electronic manufacturers to shorten the lifespan of electronics. However, rapid upgrade in technology and features, both in hardware and software is taking place, particularly in electronic, information technology and communication sector. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is involved in developing technology to recycle e-waste in an environment friendly manner. MeitY is promoting research and development to develop technological solutions for e-waste management in environment friendly manner.

Further, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, for disposal of e-waste in an environmentally sound manner. The regulations intend at taking all steps required to ensure that e-waste is managed in a manner which shall protect health and environment against any adverse effects, which may result from such e-waste.

(c) E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 is for management of waste generated out of electrical and electronic equipment. The said rules are only for e-waste management and not for electronic product/goods management. As per the information provided by MeitY and Central Pollution Control Board, there is no guidelines regarding repair, warranty, and quality of electronic goods sold in the Indian market.
