

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 199**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

**Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste**

199. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal by dumping it on the outskirts of the urban centres, which release methane and carbon dioxide and increase the effects of greenhouse gases thereby posing a major urban environmental problem;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to adopt proven waste to energy conversion techniques, as adopted by the European Union and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the existing environmental laws have proved to be ineffective due to lack of enforcement, the lack of resources and technical challenges faced by a large number of Indian companies, especially the SMEs and if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the necessary steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to devise and adopt some sustainable actions to address the myriad issues faced by the country particularly environmental degradation?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): As per CPCB publication on “Status of methane emission from municipal solid waste disposal site”, municipal solid waste is a significant contributor of Landfill Gas (LFG), which is an important source of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs), mainly methane and carbon dioxide. Recognizing the large amounts of municipal solid waste in the urban areas of the country, the Government of India launched the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban in 2014.

(b): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy under Waste to Energy Programme has recognized incineration/gasification/pyrolysis as waste to energy conversion technologies for treatment of municipal solid waste and biomethanation process for wet waste.

(c) & (d): The Ministry inter alia is mandated for the conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife, prevention and control of pollution, afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas, and protection of environment. These objectives are well supported by a set of legislative and regulatory measures, aimed at the preservation, conservation and protection

of the environment. These enactments have been variously amended from time to time. Further, to monitor implementation of legislative and regulatory measures the Ministry has delegated powers to various agencies including Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards, Regional Offices of the Ministry, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority etc.

The Ministry implements policies and programmes relating to conservation of the country's natural resources including its lakes and rivers, its biodiversity, forests and wildlife, and the prevention and abatement of pollution. While implementing these policies and programmes, the Ministry is guided by the principle of sustainable development and enhancement of human well-being. As regards disposal of solid waste, the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, brought out by the Ministry provide the statutory framework for solid waste management in the country. Central Pollution Control Board has brought out guidelines for effective management of solid waste including disposal of legacy waste. Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, for enforcement of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 regarding bio mining of legacy waste to all State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees.

The Ministry has implemented Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System named PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) for complete online, expeditious and transparent system for environment, forest, wildlife and Coastal Regulation Zone clearances in the country.

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