

sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to supplement their efforts in providing safe drinking water in rural areas of the country. A budgetary provision of Rs. 10,500 crore has been made for NRDWP in 2012-13. Under NRDWP, States can utilize upto 62% of funds released to them for providing safe drinking water facilities in water quality affected habitations. During Plan discussions held every year with the State Government officials, the Central Government has advised them to target water quality affected habitations giving priority to arsenic and fluoride affected habitations using NRDWP funds.

(e) to (g) As per the NRDWP Guidelines every person has the right to demand drinking water. The Government is not contemplating any specific bill in this regard.

#### **Safe disposal of CFL bulbs**

4968. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is promoting the use of Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs with a view to save the consumption of power;

(b) whether it is a fact that CFL bulbs contain mercury which is a hazardous element if disposed off carelessly;

(c) whether efforts are being made by Government to educate public about the appropriate disposal of CFL bulbs with a view to avoid the adverse impact of mercury in the environment; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard and the result of these efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Power, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency is promoting the energy efficient lighting in household/domestic sector through "Bachat Lamp Yojana". Under this scheme, the Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) are provided to the residential consumers in exchange of an Incandescent Lamp and the CFL supplier is required to make arrangements for collection of fused CFLs through appropriate schemes and ensure their safe storage, transportation and disposal. The concentration of mercury in Compact Florescent Lamps (CFLs) may vary depending on the type of technology used in dosing of mercury. The Ministry of Environment and Forest had constituted a Task Force to evolve a policy on "Environmentally Sound Management of mercury in Fluorescent Lamps." A technical Committee,

constituted by this Task Force, had prepared "Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Mercury Management in Fluorescent Lamps Sector". These guidelines prescribe the best practices at various levels, such as at manufacturers's level and include aspects relate to mercury consumption, process technology, raw mercury distillation, on-site storage, treatment, recycling and disposal of mercury bearing wastes, mercury spill management. The best practices at consumer's level include handling of used/broken lamps, consumer awareness pertaining to collection, transport, treatment and disposal of used fluorescent lamps. Ministry of Environment and Forests and Central Pollution Control Board have written to all the State Governments and Union Territories to encourage establishment of recycling units so that the fused Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and Fluorescent Tube Lights (FTLs) are properly collected and the mercury is recovered and recycled scientifically and safely.

**Display of environmental related information  
by petroleum companies**

‡4969, SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state:

(a) whether petroleum companies operating in the country are not displaying the environmental clearance related information on their websites which is creating doubts in accessing this information;

(b) whether any action has been taken against any petroleum company regarding violation of conditions/rules of displaying of environmental clearance information on the website;

(c) whether conditions/rules also require that if companies do not display the information of environmental clearance on their websites, it gets cancelled automatically; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The Regional Offices of the Ministry of Environment and Forests have informed that some of the petroleum units operating in the country have not been displaying the environmental clearance related information on their respective websites.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Environment and Forests had taken a decision vide circular dated 24th March, 2009 to stipulate transparency conditions in the

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‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi