

Solar energy panels in Government accommodation

2945. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of solar energy panels installed at Government accommodations including the residence of Members of Parliament and Ministers in Delhi;

(b) whether all the installed panels are working properly, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government to ensure proper functioning of the panels installed in aforesaid flats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) Total 857 numbers of Solar Energy Panels are installed at the Government Accommodations including the residence of Members of Parliament and Ministers in Delhi,

(b) Except 20 nos., all Solar Energy Panels are working properly.

(c) Repair of non functioning Solar Energy Panels is carried out as and when required.

Solid waste management

2946. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the urban areas in the country are plagued by acute problems related to solid waste;

(b) whether it is also a fact that continuous migration of people from rural and semi-urban areas to towns and cities aggravates the problem of Solid Waste Management, which poses a major pollution threat to public at large; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Solid Waste Management in urban areas is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Governments/Urban Local Bodies to plan, design, execute and operate the water supply and sanitation schemes in the urban areas of the Country. The Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) facilitates in framing broad policies, programmes and guidelines on solid waste management. The steps taken by the Ministry to tackle the problems related to urban solid waste management are as under:

- (i) Ministry of Urban Development published a "Manual on Municipal Solid Waste Management" in May, 2000 to assist ULBs in management of municipal solid waste in a hygienic and scientific manner.
- (ii) Task Force was set up in March, 2003 to prepare policy, strategy and action plan for promoting "Integrated Plant Nutrient Management" using City Compost along with chemical fertilizers in the area of agriculture, horticulture, plantation crops, forestry, creating market demand and supply mechanism for city compost within 50 km radius of all urban local bodies and their compost plants. The report was forwarded to all the State Governments and concerned Ministries for implementation of the recommendations brought out in the report.
- (iii) Technology Advisory Group on Solid Waste Management was constituted in August, 1999 on the recommendations of Committee on Solid Waste Management for Class-I cities. The report of the Committee was published in May, 2005 and circulated to all the State Governments for adoption.
- (iv) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has notified the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000, for management of Municipal Solid Waste. The rules make it mandatory to treat the bio-degradable waste adopting composting or other state of the art technologies. It prohibits disposal of organic matter at the landfill and permits land filling of inert material only to reduce the burden on the landfill. The provision of segregation of municipal solid waste into biodegradable and recyclable waste has been made in the Rules.

- (v) The Ministry has formulated the "National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP)" in 2008 with a view to prioritizing the issue of solid waste management. The vision of the policy is that 'All Indian cities and towns become totally sanitized, healthy and liveable and ensure and sustain good public health and environmental outcomes for all their citizens with a special focus on hygienic and affordable sanitation facilities for the urban poor and women'. The policy requires each State to formulate its own 'State Sanitation Strategies (SSS)' and cities to make individual 'City Sanitation Plans (CSP)' and implement them to meet the objective of the goals set under NUSP.
- (vi) Ministry has proposed to shift focus on infrastructure with respect to sanitation including municipal solid waste management to improve the efficiency of service delivery. Ministry has formulated the set of Standardized Service Level Benchmarks (SLBs) for sanitation including municipal solid waste management. The SLBs have been circulated to the States in September 2008 for adoption in infrastructure development projects. Any project seeking Central Assistance will be appraised with respect to these Benchmarks.
- (vii) Ministry of Urban Development supplements the efforts of State Governments/Urban Local Bodies in providing adequate waste management in urban areas under schemes such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), 10% lumpsum provision for North Eastern States, North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme (NERUDP), Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Satellite Towns (UIDSST) and "Central Sector Scheme of Solid Waste Management and Drainage Scheme for 10 Selected IAF Airfield towns".

Urban population in 2050

2947. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that urbanisation in the country is growing at the fastest pace among the BRIC countries;