

**Cities generating maximum plastic waste**

1694. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the major cities in India that generate maximum plastic waste;
- (b) whether such waste is very harmful to the residents of such cities/towns;
- (c) if so, whether Government has laid down certain guidelines/instructions for the safety of the workers so employed in such plastic industries, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the mechanism to ensure that such guidelines are followed by all concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Based on a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board and Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology for sixty cities in the country during 2010-11, it was observed that ten cities viz. Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Surat, Kanpur and Pune generate more plastic waste. Littering of plastic waste can be harmful to the environment.

(c) and (d) This Ministry has notified the Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 for management of plastic waste. These Rules, *inter-alia*, provide for norms for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of plastic waste. Recyclers of plastic waste are required to obtain registration from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee. The Government has taken a number of steps for ensuring safety and health of workers through enactment of various Statutes in the form of the Factories Act, 1948 and the model Factories Rules framed there under as far as the manufacturing sector is concerned. These Statutes are also applicable to plastic industries. Various provisions under the Factories Act, 1948, *i.e.*, constitution of the site appraisal committee, compulsory disclosure of the information by the occupier, specific responsibility of the occupier in relation to hazardous process, power of the Central Government to appoint an enquiry committee, emergency standards, permissible limits of exposure of chemicals and toxic substances, workers participation in safety management and right of workers to warn about imminent danger, etc. are required to be complied by the occupier of the such factories. The State Governments/Union Territories frame their State Factories Rules under various enabling provisions of this Act and enforce these provisions through their State Factory Inspectorates and Directorates to ensure that the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948 and State Factories Rules are complied by the occupier/owner of the factories.