Safe disposal of mercury bearing waste

508. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any guidelines for safe disposal of mercury bearing waste in Compact Florescent Lights (CFL) in accordance with international standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check unregulated and unrestricted disposal of CFL leading to contamination of environment and human health; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government to ensure safe disposal of mercury bearing waste in CFL in accordance with the concept of the extended producers responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (d) No guideline has been framed for disposal of mercury bearing waste in Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) in accordance with international standard has been issued. However, Central Pollution Control Board has published “Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Mercury Management in Fluorescent Lamp Sector” in 2008, wherein the role and responsibilities of the stakeholders are specified for effective management of mercury in Fluorescent Lamp.

Measures taken to combat air pollution

509. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been measures taken to combat air pollution by switching over to CNG/LPG as automotive fuel in Kolkata, Kanpur, Pune, Ahmedabad and other major cities of India, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) if so, the details regarding the performance of these schemes in these cities; and

(c) whether the status of ambient air in these cities post implementation of schemes show improvement?
THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS
AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) The Hon’ble
Supreme Court of India via its order dated May 9, 2002 has ordered to the preparation of
a scheme for compulsory switch over to CNG/LPG as automotive fuel in the cities which
are equally or more polluted than Delhi. The 4 cities that have been identified as equally
or more polluted than Delhi were Kolkata, Kanpur, Pune and Ahmedabad. The State
Governments of these cities have prepared schemes for switching over to CNG/LPG as
automotive fuel.

With regard to monitoring of air quality at Kolkata, Kanpur, Pune, Ahmedabad,
the air quality data for the year 2010 to 2012 is given in Statement (See below). Analysis
of data during 2010-2012 reveals that for Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) at all locations were
within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the three consecutive
years. Regarding Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Kolkata exceeds the NAAQS norms in three
consecutive years and for Particulate Matter size equal to or less than 10 micron (PM₁₀),
all the 4 cities exceeded the NAAQS of 60 μg/m³ in three consecutive years.

**Statement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>NO₂</td>
<td>PM₁₀</td>
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<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>29</td>
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</table>

**Time-frame for online environmental clearances**

510. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS
AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is drafting any clear rules for faster green approvals, if
so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there would be a time-frame for online clearances; and

(c) what would be Government’s strategy to simplify the whole process in future,
the details thereof?