

(c) to (g) Hydroelectric power projects may cause adverse environmental impact and to mitigate such impact on riverine biodiversity, terrestrial biodiversity and water quality of river; necessary measures are prescribed as per EIA study. Accordingly, an appropriate EMP is prepared which is evaluated by a designated Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects. The EAC recommends environmental safeguard measures to mitigate the adverse impacts. These measures are stipulated in the Environmental Clearance for compliance by the project proponents. Compliance of environmental safeguard conditions is monitored regularly through the Regional Offices of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and State Pollution Control Boards. Government issues directions and take penal actions by exercising power under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in case of violation of the prescribed conditions by the project proponents.

Safe disposal of e-waste

847. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that e-waste is increasing menacingly in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government has fixed any norms for safety of workers handling e-waste;

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

(e) the steps taken by Government for safe disposal of e-waste in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) A report from Central Pollution Control Board indicated the quantum of e-waste generation in the country in 2005 to the tune of 1.46 lakh Metric Ton (MT) which was projected to increase to 8 lakh MT by the year 2012.

(b) In order to address the issue of increasing e-waste in the country, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011. These Rules have come into force from 1st May, 2012 and are applicable to the e-waste, generated from IT and telecommunication equipment and consumer electrical and electronic items. These rules apply to producer, consumer, collection centre, dismantler and recycler of e-waste.

The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility has been enshrined in these rules as per which the producers shall be responsible for environmentally sound management of e-waste generated from their end of life equipment.

To ensure better implementation of management of electronic waste, Ministry has published draft E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2015. The provisions of this Draft Rule include expanding producers' responsibility, setting up of Producers' Responsibility Organizations, and e-waste Exchange, assigning specific responsibility to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal, providing for economic incentives for collection of electronic waste, and other measures to include dedicated responsibility of electronic and electrical product manufacturers for collection and channelizing of electronic waste.

(c) and (d) The guideline for 'Implementation of E-Waste Rules, 2011' provide for detailed operational modalities which *inter-alia* include norms for safety of workers in recycling units of e-waste. These safety norms mandate safety gears for workers including personal protective equipment, employment of skilled manpower in specific sector having adequate tools and others.

(e) Both E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 and draft E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2015 provide provision for channelization of e-waste to authorized recyclers/dismantlers while simultaneously elaborating on the responsibilities of recyclers/dismantlers. At present there are 148 registered recyclers/dismantlers in the country.

Proposals from West Bengal pending for environmental clearance

848. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals from West Bengal Government and non-Government organisations are pending for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) There are 19 (Nineteen) project proposals from West Bengal Government and non-Government organisations under consideration for environmental clearance in the Ministry. The list of projects along with status is given in Statement.