

- Raising, arming and deploying of Special Rhino Protection Force in the lines of Special Tiger Protection Force for Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- Insurance/Corpus fund for staff of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
- Motivating tiger reserve administration/tiger States to ensure conviction of criminals through pursuance of cases in different courts.
- Bilateral co-operation with neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan.
- Sharing of information on seizure of body parts including skin of tigers among tiger range countries to ascertain source area. India made a proposal in this regard in CITES CoP-17 in Johannesburg which was agreed by member countries.

Organised mechanism to manage e-waste in the country

4187. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the E-Waste (Management) Rules provide for setting up of organized mechanism to manage e-waste in the country;

(b) if so, the number of producers of electronic goods and the mechanism for recycling of e-waste so far; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for having efficient mechanism for collection and disposal of about two lakh tonnes of e-waste generated annually in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) and (b) E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 provides for organised mechanism to manage e-waste which includes revised Extended Producers' Responsibility (EPR) to set up Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs), to start Deposit Refund Scheme (DRS) by producers and to establish e-waste exchange to facilitate collection, storage and recycling of e-waste. CPCB has reported the receipt of 170 applications from producers for authorisation of EPRs. The combined recycling capacity of 178 dismantling and recycling units in the country is 4.38 lakh tons per annum.

(c) The policy framework for environmentally sound management of e-waste is laid down in E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 which was notified in March, 2016. The provisions of these rules include expanded producers' responsibility, financial incentives through DRS, setting up of e-waste exchange to ensure collection and disposal of e-waste efficiently, specific responsibility upon bulk

consumers of electronic products for safe disposal, and simplified permission process for setting up of dismantling and recycling facilities through single authorization based on Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). Responsibility upon State Governments to earmark industrial space for e-waste dismantling and recycling facilities, and to undertake industrial skill development and establish measures for safety and health of workers engaged in dismantling and recycling facilities of e-waste. In accordance with the provisions of the E-Waste (Management) rules, 2016, the CPCB has published guidelines for implementation of these Rules in respect of collection centres, channelization, storage, transportation, environmentally sound dismantling, recycling, and refurbishment.

Proper disposal of menstrual waste

4188. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has put in place a policy for proper disposal of menstrual waste;

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

(c) whether improper disposal of menstrual waste is an environmental hazard as sanitary napkins are non-biodegradable, non-recyclable and non-reusable;

(d) what framework is proposed to reduce the environment hazard arising out of improper disposal of sanitary napkins; and

(e) whether the Ministry has conducted any study to determine the amount of menstrual waste generated in the country every month, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified Solid Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 which *inter alia* provide for environmentally sound management of menstrual waste. Sanitary pads and diapers are ubiquitously used for disposal of menstrual waste. Indiscriminate disposal of menstrual waste and/or mixing with other waste is environmental and health hazard. Accordingly, it has been prescribed in the Rules as an obligation for waste generators of sanitary waste including menstrual waste to securely wrap the used sanitary pads and diapers in the pouches provided by the manufacturers of these products and/or in a suitable wrapping material as made mandatory by the local authorities to be placed in the bin meant for dry waste or