

- (b) if so, the steps being taken to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) The country's economic growth, rise in per capita income, and technological innovations coupled with high obsolescence rate of electronic and electrical equipments have resulted in increase in the rate of generation of e-waste. A comprehensive inventorization of e-waste generation in the country has not been done. However, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2005 estimated 1.47 lakh ton of e-waste in the country and simultaneously had projected 8.0 lakh ton of e-waste generation in the year 2010. As per the Global E-waste Monitor 2017 Report of United Nations University the annual generation of e-waste in India was 2 million metric tons in 2016.

(b) The Ministry has notified E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 on 23rd March, 2016 and has further made amendments in March, 2018 for its effective implementation. The provisions of these Rules include extended producers responsibility, setting up of producer responsibility organizations and e-waste exchange to facilitate collection and recycling, assigning specific responsibility to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal. The Rules also provide for 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). There are 275 authorized dismantling/recycling units in the country with a capacity of 5,10,950.1 MT per annum. State Governments have been entrusted with the responsibility for earmarking industrial space for e-waste dismantling and recycling facilities and to undertake industrial skill development and establish measures for protection of health and safety of workers engaged in dismantling and recycling facilities of e-waste.

Pollution due to synthetic fertilizers and agricultural pollutants

2124. DR. L. HANUMANTHALAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that indiscriminate application of synthetic fertilizers has been polluting water bodies and destroying ozone layers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that agricultural pollutants have the potential to cause damage on a much larger scale;

- (d) if so, whether Government has taken steps to identify the said problems;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Government is taking any measures to combat the likely damage due to the said pollutants; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (e) Water bodies in the country are polluted due to discharge of untreated sewage, industrial effluent, agricultural runoff containing fertilizers, pesticides, etc. No study has been carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to assess pollution of water bodies from application of synthetic fertilizers. However, CPCB is monitoring the water quality of both surface and ground water under the National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP) through a network of monitoring stations in the country. The water quality is assessed for various parameters, including physico-chemical, bacteriological, heavy metals, pesticides, etc.

(f) and (g) The steps taken by the Government to check the pollution of water bodies, *inter alia*, include formulation and notification of standards for effluents from industries, operations or processes; enforcing of these standards by State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) through consent mechanism and regular monitoring; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of water quality; installation of Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring systems (OCEMS) to check the discharge of effluent directly into water bodies; promotion of cleaner production processes; installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units; issuance of directions for implementation of Zero Liquid Discharge in certain categories of highly polluting industries; issuance of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and under Section 18(1)(b) of Water (Prevention, and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, etc.

E-waste produced in India

2125. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of e-waste produced by India over the past few years;