

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), being the nodal Ministry for Electronics and IT, is involved in developing technology to recycle e-waste in an environmentally sound manner. MeitY is promoting research and development (R&D) to develop technological solutions for e-waste management. The processing technology, including recycling of e-waste through physical separation, chemical leaching methods as well as recovery of precious metals through pyrolysis process from printed circuit boards had been developed under various R&D projects. Utilizing this technology, MeitY has set up a demonstration plant at Bangalore through a project titled "Environmentally Sound Methods for Recovery of Metals from Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs) - Phase II", which is being implemented by the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET), Hyderabad and E-Parisara, Bengaluru at a total budget outlay of ₹ 1126.80 lakhs, over a period of five years since August 2014. The contribution of MeitY, Government of Karnataka, E-Parisara and C-MET is ₹ 807.80 lakhs, ₹ 75.00 lakhs, ₹ 104.00 lakhs and ₹ 130.00 lakhs respectively. Besides, the internal accruals, as processing fee, amounting to ₹ 10.00 lakhs. MeitY has so far released 1st, 2nd and 3rd instalment of grant-in-aid amounting to ₹ 368.20 lakhs, ₹ 232.80 lakhs and ₹ 79.20 lakhs respectively. The demonstration plant has so far processed nearly 50 MT of PCB from 750 MT of e-waste.

(c) The MeitY is also promoting various R&D projects at other places. A processing technology through physical separation and chemical leaching methods has been developed for recycling and reuse of electronic waste at National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Jamshedpur. In this effort, as a pilot project, up to 1 ton of e-waste had been successfully recycled. MeitY has also Established demonstration process at the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET), Bhubaneswar-Autonomous academic institute under Department of Chemical & Petrochemicals, Government of India on converting plastics of e-waste to virgin master batch, which can be used for value added products. The process is capable of converting a majority (76%) of the waste plastic into suitable master batch, which can be used for virgin plastic products. The toxicity and environmental tests carried out on the developed products from the master batch are shown to be within acceptable standards.

Casualties of Army Personnel in Jammu and Kashmir

2152. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of casualties of Army in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to decrease the number of such casualties?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):

(a) Details of casualties of Army in Jammu and Kashmir during last three years are as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Other Casualties due to road accidents, illness, bad weather conditions etc. (Fatal)	Battle Casualties due to Ceasefire violations, Terrorists Activities etc. (Fatal)
(i)	2015	264	69
(ii)	2016	291	98
(iii)	2017	236	107

(b) All the forward posts along the LC are adequately strengthened to withstand enemy fire. Apart from this, there are well established Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to safeguard against enemy action along the LC to minimize our casualties. Operational procedures are reviewed regularly to defeat the nefarious designs of enemy and minimize casualties of our Army personnel. Steps also have been taken to equip our Army Personnel with modern weapons and equipments.

Conservation of one horned Rhino

2153. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Central Government to conserve one horned Rhino in Assam;

(b) the details of funds made to the State for conservation of the above during the last three years, year-wise and project-wise;

(c) whether objectives of the above could be achieved, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether poaching of Rhino was detected frequently, if so, the details thereof and the details of penal action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) One horned rhinoceros