

(c) whether the staff has been vigilant and all possible steps have been taken to ensure safety of animals and birds in the zoos in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The establishment and operation/management of the zoo including dietary changes, if any, is the responsibility of the respective Zoo Operator. The information regarding dietary changes for animals, procurement of feed etc. are not compiled and collated at the level of the Ministry. However, the Central Zoo Authority, in view of confirmation of H5N1 Avian Influenza among domestic birds in Puri District of Odisha, Munger District of Bihar and Peafowl housed in the Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna, have issued advisory to all the zoos to be alert and to take action as per the advisory in the matter including Action Plan on "Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza".

(c) As specified above, the operation of zoos including the adoption of measures for safety of captive animals housed in zoos is the responsibility of the respective 'Zoo Operator'. Further, one of the functions assigned to the Central Zoo Authority under Section 38-C(i) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, is to provide technical and other assistance to zoos for their proper management and development on scientific lines. Accordingly, the Central Zoo Authority has published a number of technical manuals and has issued Guidelines for technical assistance to the zoos to ensure safety of captive animals housed therein.

E-waste policy

2785. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any policy in place to regulate the electronic waste in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of e-waste produced, collected and recycled in the country during the last three years;

(d) whether Government is complying with the recognised international standards for the disposal of e-waste and the best practices followed for the same;

(e) whether any deaths have occurred in the last three years during the collection and subsequent disposal of e-waste in the country; and

(f) whether any steps can be taken to encourage proper e-waste disposal and recycling in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) 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 Rules aim at channelizing e-waste generated in the country towards authorized dismantlers and recyclers to prevent adverse effects of e-waste on environment. The responsibilities have also been given to all major stakeholders such as producers, manufacturers, dismantlers, recyclers, collection centers, dealers, refurbishers, consumers, bulk consumers etc. to address various aspects of e-waste handling, management and disposal. The Rules further provide for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), authorization of dismantlers and recyclers, reduction of hazardous substances (RoHS) in manufacturing of electrical and electronic equipment, registration of Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs), Deposit Refund Scheme, etc. As per the Global E-waste Monitor 2017 Report of United Nations University, annual generation of e-waste in India was estimated to be about 2 million tonne in 2016. For safe disposal of e-waste, there are 275 authorized dismantling/recycling units with combined capacity of 5,10,950 tonne per annum. The CPCB has also developed guidelines for effective implementation of the Rules and environmental sound management of e-waste based on the best available practices.

(e) and (f) The toxic constituents such as Lead, Mercury, Cadmium, Hexavalent Chromium. Polybrominated biphenyls and Polybrominated diphenyl ethers may be present in electronic devices. Disposal of e-waste from such electronic devices, without processing it in an environmentally sound manner, may affect human health and environment including soil and ground water contamination. However, no death of workers involved in collection and disposal of e-wastes has been reported. To encourage proper e-waste disposal/recycling and to create awareness among stakeholders, the Government is conducting nationwide Capacity Building Programme on various waste management rules, including E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. So far, 23 programmes have been organized in different cities. Further, under Digital India initiatives, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated a project entitled "Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic waste" to

provide training, tools, content materials, videos, printed materials etc. for proper recycling.

Consultation before environmental clearance for dam building

2786. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects provided environmental clearance for dam constructions, during the past three years;
- (b) if so, whether stakeholders of interstate rivers were consulted before providing environmental clearance;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, on what consideration environmental clearances were provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Fifteen (15) projects relating to construction of dams/barrages have been accorded environmental clearance (EC) by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change during the past three years. State-wise details of these projects are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The EIA Notification, 2006, provides for a public consultation process for grant of environmental clearance. However, the environmental clearance process has four distinct steps. Screening, Scoping, Public Consultation and Appraisal. Public Hearing which is a component of public consultations shall be held District wise at the site or its close proximity as prescribed in the Appendix (IV) of EIA Notification, 2006. In case the project site is extending beyond a State or Union Territory, the public hearing is mandated in each State or Union Territory in which the project is sited and the applicant shall make separate requests to each concerned State Pollution Control Board or Union Territory Pollution Control Board for holding public hearing as per the procedure.

(d) The proposals are processed for environment clearance as per the provisions under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2006. These projects are accorded clearance within the stipulated timeframe and after receiving requisite documents from the project proponents and State Government.