

Solid waste processing and disposal

1047. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of total solid waste generated per day in the country especially in Assam and the quantum of the same which is processed;
- (b) whether Government has been able to achieve the target of 100 per cent scientific processing and disposal of solid waste by 2nd October, 2019;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the problem being faced by Government in achieving the target; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) As on date, total municipal waste generated in the country is 1.49 Lakhs Metric Tonne Per Day (MT/D) out of which 58% is being processed. As regards Assam, against the total waste generation of 1,432 MT/D, 50% is being processed.

- (b) to (e) Reasons for the slow progress in processing of solid waste are:
- (i) Construction of processing plants has a gestation period of 1 -2 years from the date of tendering to the commissioning and operational phase.
 - (ii) Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) provides Viability Gap Funding (VGFV Grant up to 35% of Solid Waste Management (SWM) project cost. Balance cost of project is to be arranged by others, including private parties, States and ULBs causing delay in securing funds and achieving the target.

The Government of India have taken various corrective steps to address these challenges including behaviour change through Information, Education and Communication activities, Capacity Building of Municipalities, issuing technical advisories, Model Request for Proposals (RFP), listing of equipments in the Government e-Market Place (GeM) Portal, hand holding the municipalities in preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), conducting workshops and seminars etc.