

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1732**  
ANSWERED ON-03/08/2021

**SOLAR PANEL WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING**

1732. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of solar panel waste generated in the country in the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has implemented any legal or policy framework for ensuring proper solar panel waste disposal and recycling;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
  
- (d) whether Government has conducted research/studies for developing efficient methods for solar panel waste disposal and recycling; and
  
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND POWER**

**(SHRI R.K. SINGH)**

(a) to(c) The E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 cover disposal and recycling of e-waste (defined under the Rules as electrical and electronic equipment, whole or in part discarded as waste by the consumer or bulk consumer as well as rejects from manufacturing, refurbishment, and repair processes). Solar panels comprise of electrical and electronic components and hence are categorised as e-waste. Data for amount of solar panel waste generated in the country is not being maintained separately.

(d)&(e)On 9 April 2021, a Committee on Circular Economy in Solar Panel Waste has been constituted under chairmanship of Secretary, MNRE with the following Terms of Reference: -

- i. Develop a comprehensive action plan for implementation of circular economy in Solar Panels;
- ii. Take in to account the findings of the available reports, studies etc in proposed action plan; and
- iii. Map global as well as domestic experiences and best practices and suggest how these can be practiced /implemented in India.

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