

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1006
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 10.02.2022

E-wastes & non reusable plastic wastes

1006. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of e-waste and non reusable plastic wastes produced in the country, year and State-wise since 2017;
- (b) whether Government has studied the impact of e-wastes & non reusable plastics;
- (c) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government to deal with the issue; and
- (d) if so, its achievements till now and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has estimated the generation of e-waste at the national level on the basis of sales data of 21 types of notified Electrical & Electronic Equipment (EEE) from Financial Year (FY) 2017-2018. The estimated generation of e-waste during FY 2017-2018, FY 2018-2019 & FY 2019-2020 is given below:

Financial Year	Estimated Generation in Tonnes
2017-18	7,08,445.00
2018-19	7,71,215.00
2019-20	10,14,961.21

The total plastic waste generation in the country for last five years as per Annual report of Plastic Waste Management submitted by SPCBs/PCCs, is given below:

Year	Plastic Waste Generation (Tonnes per annum)
2017-18	6,60,760 (information from 14 States/UTs)
2018-19	33,60,043
2019-20	34,69,780

The plastic waste generation in the country is 34.69 lakhs Tonnes per annum (TPA) during the year 2019-20 of which approximately 15.8 Lacs TPA of plastic waste is recycled and 1.67 lacs TPA is co-processed in Cement Kilns.

(b): No study has been carried out by CPCB to assess the damage caused to environment by e-waste. However, the electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) after their useful life does not cause any harm to health and environment if it is stored safely in households/stores. If the end of life EEE (e-waste) is opened-up and unscientific methods are used for extraction of precious and semi-precious material from it, then it causes health risks and damage to environment. The Central Pollution Control Board conducted a study 'Impact of Plastic Waste Disposal on soil and water quality at Lucknow dumpsites'. It was observed in the study that dumping of plastic waste may deteriorate soil and underground water quality due to leaching of additives, colours, stabilizers and fillers present in different categories of plastic products.

(c) & (d): The following steps have been taken by the government for effective implementation of the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016:

- i. Implementation Guidelines for E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 comprising of nine (9) specific guidelines have been prepared and uploaded on the web site of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- ii. The guidelines for environmental compensation charges (ECC) under e-waste rules have been prepared in December, 2020.
- iii. An Action Plan is in place for enforcement of the e-waste rules in the country, and is being implemented through State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). SPCBs/PCCs are submitting quarterly progress report as envisaged in the Action Plan through a web portal developed for this purpose.
- iv. There are 468 authorised Dismantlers/Recyclers in 22 States/UTs having processing capacity of 13,85,932.22tonnes.
- v. Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for grant of Extended Producer Responsibility Authorisation (EPRA) under E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 has been prepared for applicant where guidance has been provided for how to fill up applications.
- vi. There are 2808 collection centres/points in the country.
- vii. The monitoring mechanism for effective implementation of the e-waste Rules has been put in place.

The Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016, provide the statutory framework plastic waste management in the country. The PWM Rules provide for recycling of recyclable plastic waste and environmentally sound end of life disposal of non-recyclable waste. Further, the following steps have been taken to strengthen implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and also to reduce the use of identified single use plastic items:

- i. The Ministry has notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, vide GSR NO. 571 (E) on 12th August 2021, in the Gazette of India, prohibiting identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, by 1st July 2022.
- ii. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the draft Regulations on the Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended from time to time, in the Gazette of India vide GSR No. 722 (E) on 6th October, 2021, for public consultation. As per the draft notification, the producer, Importers & brand-owners respectively shall ensure minimum level of recycling (excluding end of life disposal) of plastic

packaging waste collected under Extended Producer Responsibility. The enforceable prescription of minimum level of recycling of plastic packaging waste collected under Extended Producer Responsibility to producer, Importers & brand-owners in the draft notification will further strengthen circular economy of plastic packaging waste.

- iii. The States/UTs have been requested to constitute a Special Task Force under Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary/Administrator for elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. Already, 31 States/UTs have constituted the Special Task Force till date. A National Level Taskforce has also been constituted by the Ministry for taking coordinated efforts to eliminate identified single use plastic items and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. The meeting of the National Task Force was held on 31.8.2021.
- iv. The State /UT Governments and concerned Central Ministries/Departments have also been requested for the development of a comprehensive action plan for elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, and its implementation in a time bound manner.
- v. Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, have been issued to all States/Union Territories inter alia for setting up for institutional mechanism for strengthening enforcement of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016.
- vi. Further, over and above the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended, thirty four states/UTs have issued notifications/orders to introduce regulations pertaining to complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or identified single-use plastic items.
- vii. The Government has also been taking measures for awareness generation towards elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.
