GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYASABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 503 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

E-waste generation in the Country

503. DR. AMEEYAJNIK: SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM: SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

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

- (a) the volume of e-waste generated in the country from the year 2019 till date, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government has conducted a survey to understand e-waste production in the country and its future impact on health and environment;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has outlined any awareness programme to inform the public about the importance of disposing e-waste properly; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, 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 volume of e-waste generated in the country from twenty-one (21) types of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) notified Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 during the financial year 2018-19 and 2019-20 is given below:

Financial Year	E-waste generation (Tonnes)
2018-19	7,71,215.00
2019-20	10,14,961.21

(b) & (c) The EEE after their useful life when they become e-waste, may not cause any harm to health and environment if it is stored safely. However, if un-scientific and crude methods are used for processing for retrieval of useful components or material or if the material is disposed in open, then it may cause health risks and damage to environment. Looking to the impact of e-waste on health and environment, the Government has framed the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 under which collection and processing of e-waste can be carried out only by producers or their authorised associates/ partners, authorised dismantlers, recyclers and authorised refurbisher. Non-compliance of the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 may lead to adverse impact on environment and human health.

(d) & (e) Under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, producers of notified EEE have been given the responsibility of creating awareness among consumers and bulk consumers. The awareness programme includes creating awareness on system of collection, hazardous constituents of the EEE and on proper handling of e-waste including Dos and Don'ts. The Producer in its Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Plan, provide details of proposed awareness plan. An action Plan on implementation of the said rules is in place and the same includes firming up IEC (information, education and communication) plan by State Government for educating public at large about the system of collection, incentive structure and facilities for recycling. SPCBs/PCCs are require to carry out awareness programme among various stakeholders including consumers and bulk consumers.

As per the information provided by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), they had implemented an "Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic waste" during March 2015 to March 2020 to create awareness among the public about the hazards of e-waste recycling by the unorganized sector and to educate them about alternate methods of disposing their e-waste. The programme has been implemented in a total of 31 identified states/UTs.

Under the programme, in around 1923 workshops and activities organised in various cities and nearly 13,27,420 participants from School, colleges, RWA, manufacturer, informal operators, bulk consumer, dealers and refurbishers etc. and 5789 government officials have participated. Besides, 1247 Green E Champions/ trainers have also been trained. The mass awareness amongst youth of the country, nearly 21.7 crore audience, has also been created by covering 2813 cinema halls. The programme has created training tools, content materials, films, printed materials, videos and jingles etc. for every strata of the society which are freely available on the dedicated website (www.greene.gov.in). In addition, online content for DIKSHA platform, suitable for class 7th to 9th students, has also been developed and is being used by the teachers.
