

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 511
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

Garbage dumps in cities

511. SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there have been increasing instances of garbage dumps turning into mountains in various cities;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to control such garbage dumps in major cities across the country;
- (c) whether Government has made any efforts to control fire in garbage dumps;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government has released any special guidelines in this regard; and
- (f) 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) & (b) The Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, provide the statutory framework for the management of solid waste in the country. As per the Rules, the local authorities and village panchayats of census towns and urban agglomerations, shall allow only the non-usable, non-recyclable, non-biodegradable, non-combustible and non-reactive inert waste and pre-processing rejects and residues from waste processing facilities to go to sanitary landfill sites. The rules further stipulate that every effort shall be made to recycle or reuse the rejects to achieve the desired objective of zero waste going to landfill. Further, all old open dumpsites and existing operational dumpsites are to be investigated and analysed by local authorities and village panchayats for their potential of biomining and bio-remediation and wheresoever, feasible, take necessary actions to bio-mine or bio-remediate the sites.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 in October 2021, with estimated cost of Rs. 1,41,600 Crores. The objectives of SBM-U 2.0 include 100 % scientific management of all fractions of waste, its safe disposal in landfills and remediation of all legacy dumpsites and converting them into green zones. All statutory towns are expected to achieve at least the status of 3-star Garbage Free City (GFC) by the end of SBM-U 2.0 on 1st October, 2026. Further, guidelines for Disposal of Legacy Waste (Old Municipal Solid Waste) have been issued by Central Pollution Control Board. Directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, have also been issued by Central Pollution Control Board to all State Pollution Control

Boards / Pollution Control Committees for enforcement of provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, regarding biomining of legacy waste.

(c) to (f): The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has published Municipal Solid Waste Manual in 2016. The Manual covers measures for “Fire Prevention and Protection” for the use of urban local bodies, which are responsible for implementing these guidelines. The State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees enforce the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, in their State/Union Territory through local bodies in their respective jurisdictions.
