

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3125
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
SURVEY ON E -WASTE
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made a survey on e-wastes generated from the various sources in the country;
- (b) if so, the total estimates of e-wastes generated in the country during the last three years, state-wise;
- (c) whether the main contributor to be e-wastes has been identified;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to control the problem of e-waste in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) Based on a survey conducted under the guidance of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it has been estimated that about 1,46,000 tonnes of such Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) is generated annually. The major e-waste is generated in the big cities such as Delhi, Mumbai and others.

(e) The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 which includes e-waste. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are listed at Sl.No. 31 of Schedule 1 of these rules. Further, the export and import of e-waste is regulated under Schedule 3 of these rules, as Electrical, and Electronics Assemblies are covered in Categories A1180 and B1110. The import of wastes under this category is only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has formulated "Draft Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste" for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories and the industries for handling e-waste. These draft Guidelines are available on CPCB's website www.cpcb.nic.in, for comments and suggestions. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these guidelines.