GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2330
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.08.2017

**CREATING AWARENESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL
HAZARDS OF ELECTRONIC WASTE**

2330   SHRI M.D. NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state: -
(a)   the details of the steps taken to create awareness on environmental hazards of electronic waste;
(b)   the details of the number of organisations and educational institutes given funds for organising workshops and seminars to create awareness, State-wise and year-wise; and
(c)   in what manner the impact assessment of such workshops and seminars is done, alongwith the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a):   Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), being the nodal ministry for Electronics and Information Technology, is involved in developing technology to recycle electronic waste (e-waste) in an environment friendly manner. MeitY also promotes Research & Development to develop technological solutions for e-waste management in environment friendly manner.

The major concern of e-waste management in India is lack of awareness amongst various stakeholders about the hazards associated with the end-of-life products. In this direction, MeitY is implementing an "Awareness Programme on Environmental Hazards of Electronic Waste" under Digital India initiative since March 2015, through Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), New Delhi. During the entire project duration of 5 years, a city each in the 10 identified States, namely, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Goa, Bihar, Puducherry, West Bengal, Assam and Manipur is   covered as a pilot   The stakeholders involved are schools/ Colleges/ Residents' Welfare Associations/ Bulk Consumers/ refurbishers, manufacturers, informal sector and government officials.

Short modules and films, specific to various stakeholders, have been created for spreading general awareness about the hazards of the recycling methods generally used in unorganized sector vis-à-vis best practices available for environment friendly recycling. The general public is encouraged to participate in "Swachh Digital Bharat" by giving their e-waste to the authorized recyclers only.

So far, nearly 71,000 participants from Schools, colleges, Resident Welfare Associations, manufacturers, informal operators etc. and 2100 government officials have participated in various cities. In addition to awareness, the programme has undertaken inventory study for estimation of the quantum of e-waste in four states, viz., Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha.

(b):   MeitY is not giving any financial grant to States for conducting the awareness program. The grant is given to Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society under MeitY which in association with industry bodies such as National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology (MAIT), Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA), National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), and PHD (Punjab, Haryana and Delhi)

Chamber of Commerce are implementing the pilot awareness program at various States. The grant given to the above industry bodies by STPI is given in the table below :

Organization	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
CEAMA	Rs.30.00 lakhs	Rs.18.73 lakhs
MAIT	Rs.138.00 lakhs	Rs.18.73 lakhs
NASSCOM	Rs.304.03 lakhs	-
NIELIT	Rs.143.64 lakhs	-
PHD Chamber	-	Rs.81.60 lakhs

(c): The methodology for Impact Assessment includes the following, namely:-

- Detailed standard operating procedure has been developed;
- Monitoring and evaluation format has been developed to capture the weekly progress;
- A city level taskforce was created in each city to guide and monitor the implementation of the workshops/ activities;
- Feedback from the participants is obtained;
- As a result of training programme conducted for government officials, some departments, namely, Goa Pollution Control Board, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Imphal, State Pollution Control Board, Imphal, Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, Department of Health and Family Welfare Services, Puducherry etc. have updated/ modified their present trend of handling e-waste in terms of classification, identification and processing.

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