

Status on Implementation of Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 as amended

Background:

The Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 and amendments thereof were notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 by the Ministry of Environment & Forest. The BMW Rules are comprehensive and set duty of occupier/every bio-medical waste generator to segregate, transportation, and store, treat and dispose these wastes as per the laid down provisions. The State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/ Pollution Control Committee (PCC) have been notified as the prescribed authority for implementing the provisions of these Rules in the respective State/UT. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is regularly pursuing with the SPCB/PCC to get information on bio-medical waste management in the respective State/UT.

A. Bio-medical Waste Management Scenario' in the Country:

As per the annual report information received for the year 2010 from the State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs) and Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS), the bio-medical waste management status in the Country is given as follow:

1.	No. of healthcare facilities	: 139594
2.	No. of beds	: 1420563
3.	No. of Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs)	: 188 + 17*
4.	No. of healthcare facilities (HCFs) using CBWTFs	: 98764
5.	No. of HCFs having treatment & disposal facilities	: 20228
6.	No. of healthcare facilities applied for authorization	: 77537
7.	No. of healthcare facilities granted authorization	: 70800

Total no. of on-site treatment equipment installed (at Healthcare facilities):

1.	No. of incinerators	
	i) With Air Pollution Control Device	: 419
	ii) Without Air Pollution Control Device	: 273
2.	No. of autoclaves	: 2710
3.	No. of microwaves	: 179
4.	No. of Hydroclave	: 13
5.	No. of Shredders	: 4250

Total no. of treatment equipments installed at CBWTFs:

1.	No. of incinerators	: 177
2.	No. of autoclaves	: 161
3.	No. of microwaves	: 10
4.	No. of Hydroclave	: 5
5.	No. of Shredders	: 170
6.	Quantity of bio-medical waste generated in Tons/day	: 355 (approx.)
7.	Quantity of bio-medical waste treated in Tons /day	: 302.0 (approx.)

8.	No. of HCFs violated BMW Rules	: 6653
9.	No. of Show-cause notices/Directions issued to defaulter HCFs	: 5829

Note:

* - CBWTFs under installation

There has been increase in number of common Bio-medical waste treatment facilities over the years and at present there are 205 CBWTFs (188 under operation + 17 under construction) so as to facilitate proper treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste in the Country.

B. Initiative taken by CPCB during last two years:

➤ CPCB prepared following guidelines relating to management of bio-medical wastes :

- (1) 'Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs),
- (2) 'Design & Construction of bio-medical waste incinerators', &
- (3) Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury Waste generated from HCFs

The above guidelines are circulated to all State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs/PCCs) for its implementation and the same has been placed at CPCB website link <http://www.cpcb.nic.in/Guidelines.php> for access of various stake-holders and the operators of Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs) to help in complying the standards stipulated in the BMW Rules;

- CPCB during 2003-2004 developed a 40 minutes video film on bio-medical waste management in order to generate awareness about the safe management of bio-medical waste. The film includes all aspects of bio-medical waste management i.e. segregation, packaging, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal vis-à-vis the regulatory requirements under the BMW Rules. The film would be useful in imparting training to all those concerned directly or indirectly with generation and management of bio-medical waste including nursing staffs, paramedical staff, doctors, persons involved in implementation and other stake holders. The film has been distributed to all SPCBs/PCCs, NGOs, major hospitals and other stake holders. The film is also available on CPCB website at link http://www.cpcb.nic.in/Bio_medical_docu.php ;
- Road Map emphasizing mainly steps to be taken for effective management of Bio-medical Waste in the Country has been prepared and sent to MoEF for its approval & further necessary action by the all the concerned;
- A check list for verification of compliance by Health Care Facilities (HCFs) & Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs) prepared & circulated to all SPCBs/PCCs;

- Coordinated with MoEF, for finalization of the draft proposed amendments to the BMW Rules which have been notified as draft BMW Rules, 2011 which are under finalization by MoEF;
- CPCB carries out inspection of HCFs regularly falling under the jurisdiction of Director General, Armed Forces Healthcare Establishments as required by the Rules and recommendations are communicated to DGAFMS for carrying out necessary improvement;
- CPCB is regularly conducting visits to various HCFs and CBWTFs in the Country to verify the status of compliance to the Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 & CPCB guidelines. Also, Directions under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 issued by CPCB to the 29 nos. of CBWTFs & 05 HCFs in the country for violation of provisions of BMW Rules during the last three years.
- Organised four one-day workshops on Bio-medical Waste Management at Goa, Lucknow, Guwahati & Bhubaneswar for the stakeholders during the year 2010-2011 & also sponsored to organize workshop on bio-medical waste management to Mizoram SPCB during the financial year 2011-12;
- CPCB brought to the notice of all the SPCBs/PCCs with regard to the approval granted to new technologies (other than notified under BMW Rules) such as (1) "Plasma Pyrolysis Technology" & (2) Sharp Blaster for treatment of bio-medical waste as approved under the BMW Rules;
- A documentary film on 'Bio-medical waste Management' under 'Paryavaran Darshan' in collaboration with 'Doordarshan' has been telecasted on March 26, 2011 & August 13, 2011 to create awareness on the BMW Management aspects;
- Held 'Interaction Meet' with the CBWTF operators of Northern & Central Zone & the concerned SPCB/PCC on 02.03.2011 and requested for strict compliance to the BMW Rules & CPCB guidelines;

Apart from that CPCB has issued following letters to all SPCBs/PCCs for implementation of the BMW Rules:

- To take action for implementation of Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 & amendments thereof in the Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTFs) vide letter of even number dated 18.01.2007;
- To take stringent actions against the defaulting HCFs in order to ensure proper implementation of the Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules vide letter of even number dated 29.01.2007;

- To take action for ensuring implementation of CPCB guidelines namely Guidelines on “Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities” vide letter of even number dated September 07, 2009;
- To take stringent action against the BMW Incinerators in operation without APCD under Section 5 of the E (P) Act, 1986 vide letter of even number dated 12.02.2010;
- To take action against the Health Care Facilities which are in operation and in violation of the BMW rules, under Section 5 of the E(P) Act, 1986 vide letter of even number dated 15.02.2010;
- To take action for ensuring proper segregation, treatment & disposal of ‘waste sharps’ in accordance with the BMW Rules and also to take up awareness campaign in the form of advertisements in electronic media vide letter of even number dated 04.03..2009 & dated March 16, 2010;
- To ensure strict compliance to the provisions of the BMW Rules by all the HCFs as well as CBWTFs and urged all SPCBs/PCCs for necessary action to raise public awareness through advertisement and electronic media & through conducting workshops vide CPCB letter of even no. dated 11.11.2011.