



सत्यमेव जयते
FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT



Gujarat Environment Management Institute (GEMI)

(An Autonomous Institute of Government of Gujarat)



e-Waste Information Pamphlet

What is e-waste?

'e-waste' means waste electrical and electronic equipment whole or in part or rejects from their manufacturing, refurbishment and repair process which are intended to be discarded as waste.

Why e-waste problem is serious?

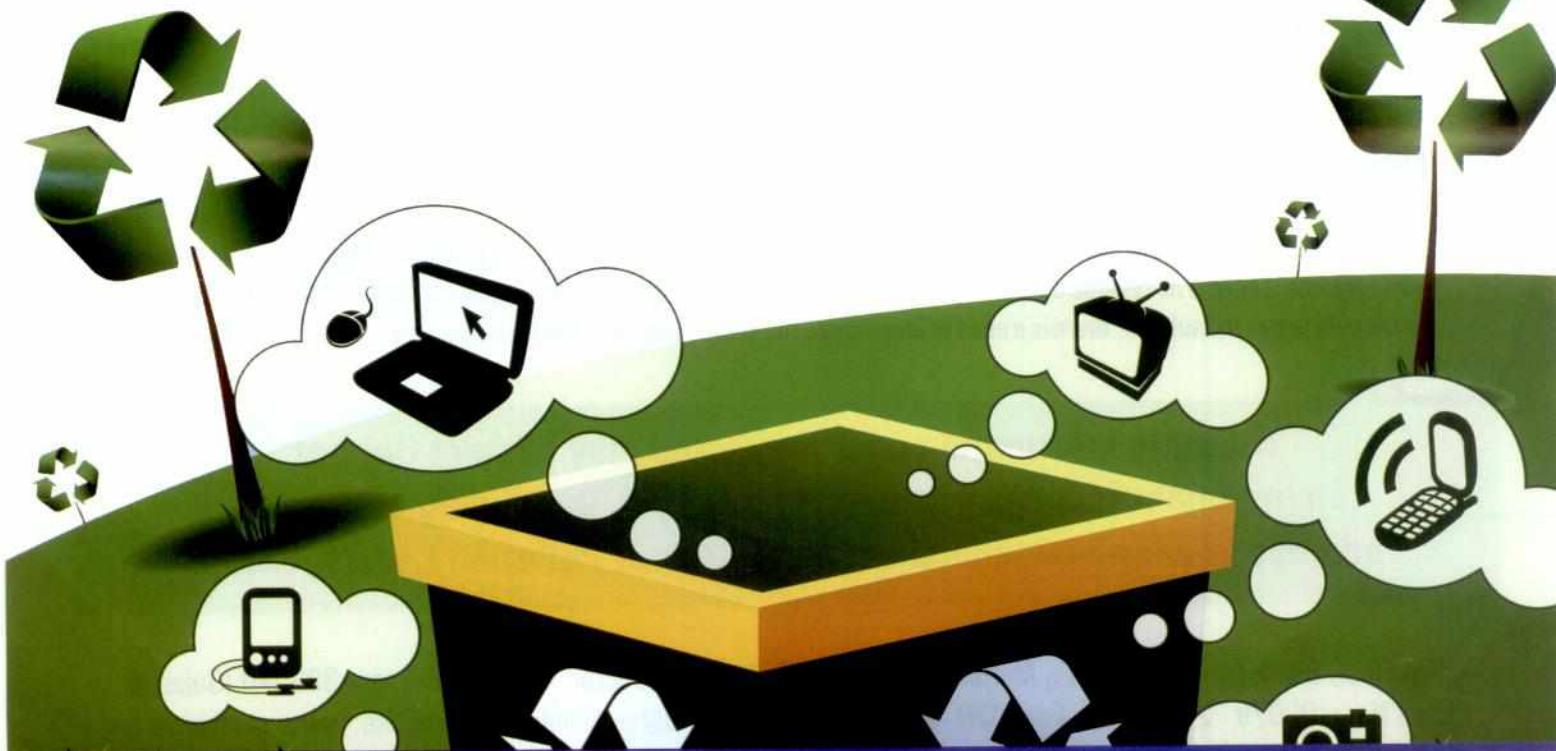
e-waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams in the world. India is the fifth biggest generator of e-waste in the world (UN, 2014) with an estimated generation of 1.7 million tons in the year 2014. The generation rate is rising exponentially due to increasing 'market penetration' and 'high obsolescence rate'. The composition of e-waste is very diverse and differs in products across different categories. It contains more than 1000 different substances, which fall under "hazardous" and "non-hazardous" categories. The current e-waste market in India is majorly governed by unorganized sector where e-waste is managed and disposed in a manner which is harmful to environment and the human health.

Is there any law for e-waste?

Yes. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011, which came into force w.e.f. 1.5.2012. The major objective is to ensure environmentally sound management of e-waste, due to its exponential growth.

Is e-waste harmful to human health and environment?

Yes. Improper disposal of e-waste may cause pollution of air, water and land and which may lead to various health hazards including cancer.



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What items/equipment are covered as e-waste?

As per the Schedule-I of the e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011, the following electrical and electronic equipment are covered as e-waste in the rules:

Schedule-I

Category of electrical and electronic equipment

i Information technology and telecommunication equipment:

- Centralised data processing;
- Mainframes (network server), minicomputers
- Personal computing:
- Personal Computers (CPU with input and output devices)
- Laptop
- Notebook computers
- Notepad computers
- Printers including cartridges
- Copying equipment
- Electrical and electronic typewriters
- User system and terminals
- Facsimile (Fax machine)
- Telex (Telegraph)
- Telephones
- Pay telephones
- Cordless telephones
- Cellular telephones (Mobile)
- Answering systems

ii Consumer electrical and electronics:

- Television sets (including LCD and LED)
- Refrigerator
- Washing Machine
- Air conditioners including centralized ACs

To whom does the e-waste Rules apply?

The e-waste Rules apply to every producer, consumer or bulk consumer involved in the manufacture, sale, purchase and processing of electrical and electronic equipment or components as specified in Schedule-I of the rules, collection center, dismantler and recycler of e-waste.

Are the rules applicable to our office/department?

Yes. Government offices/departments, public sector undertakings, banks, educational institutions, multinational organizations, international agencies and private companies that are registered under The Factories Act, 1948 and Companies Act, 1956 fall under the category of bulk consumers and these rules are applicable to bulk consumers.

What is the responsibility of our office regarding e-waste?

- As per e-waste Rules, 2011 consumers or bulk consumers of electrical and electronic equipment listed in Schedule I shall ensure that e-waste generated by them is channelized to authorized collection center(s) or registered dismantler(s) or recycler(s) or is returned to the pick-up or take back services provided by the producers; and,
- Bulk consumers shall maintain records available for scrutiny by the State Pollution Control Boards or the Pollution Control Committee concerned.

What should be done to the e-waste generated in our office?

The e-waste should be collected and stored in a separate storage unit only and should be sent only to authorized/registered recyclers/dismantlers/collection centers for safe and environment-friendly disposal.

Why should our office furnish the details of e-waste?

Gujarat State has always been committed and proactive towards the issue of pollution control and environmental management. There is no reliable data on the quantum of e-waste generated from various sectors in the State and in order to frame policies on the subject, there is a need to inventorize the sector-wise generation of e-waste.

For more information on e-waste you may contact Gujarat Environment Management Institute (GEMI), Gandhinagar at below address or near-by Regional Office of Gujarat Pollution Control Board.

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