

Digitization for Transformation Of E-Waste Management Sector in India

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New challenges need new solutions, and same is applicable for electronic and electrical waste (e-waste) management in every country. In India, >91% e-waste is treated by informal sector, where >65% is child labour. Government of India released E-Waste Management Rules in 2016, and it entered in force in year 2017. E-Waste Management Amendment Rules were released in year 2018, providing baseline and targets to the e-product manufacturers and producers, for EPR compliance. Broadly, aim is to:

i. Prevent e-pollution, air/water /land pollution due to heavy metals and carcinogens
ii. Inclination to change existing informal sector to formal
iii. Prevent health impact and more.

Inspite of great e-waste management rules in India and similar policies in various countries, there are various challenges in e-waste management sector. Few glaring issues are, lack of:

i. availability of e-waste as raw material for recyclers;
ii. companies meet EPR compliance, as per manual records
iii. mechanism to transform informal e-waste management sector
iv. sound aggregation, channelisation and recycling infra, etc

Effectively, lack of 'transparency', historically has been the reason of 'environmental degradation', 'increasing GHG emissions' and 'loss of natural resources'.

Thus, Sanshodhan :An E-Waste Exchange innovated :

1. EWX, a digital-tech platform that enable citizens, businesses and government departments to directly channelize their e-waste to authorised recyclers, for safe & environment friendly recycling.

2.A step ahead innovation by Sanshodhan: An E-Waste Exchange is RE-CIRCULATE^{TM} , world's first circular economy model for e-waste management sector, recognised as 'Highly Commended The Circulars 2019', by World Economic Forum, Davos. RE-CIRCULATE^{TM} enable green Corporate and MNCs to enhance their ethical practices and green image, globally.

Sanshodhan :A n E-Waste Exchange is the winner of global SDG Challenge awarded by RFI, UK & DDCAP Abu Dhabi; awarded as global top10 Better Together Award by GIZ & BMU, Federal Republic of Germany and winner of 'Clean India Mission' by DIPP, Ministry of Industry & Commerce, GoI.

Biography

* Dr Shalini Sharma, an Oxford, Columbia and Humboldt Alumna with 15 years of experience. Worked with India's largest industry association Confederation of Indian Industry (CII); she developed E-Waste Management Policy for Government of Telangana; and contributed for amendments in E-Waste Management Policy, India and for Industry and Investment Trade Policy for various States in India. Worked on various national & international projects including from UNIDO, World Bank etc. During her tenure with Engineering Staff College she trained 1000 engineers/ managers/ professionals, per annum. She has published more than 18 papers in reputed journals / proceedings and various other articles and chapters in books.

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