



Sharp Increase of Electronic Wastes: Problem A Matter of Great Concern

E-waste has been recognized as the fastest growing waste stream in the world when rapid socioeconomic development and technological advancements is the main driver of this trend. The hazardous chemical components of e-wastes have potential adverse impacts on ecosystems and human health if not managed properly which represents an imminent challenge to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs). Although technologically developed countries are the main source of e-wastes generation, the generated volume has also been increasing in developing countries, the remark made by Mr. Sandip Handa, Chairman, Faridabad Local Centre, IEI in a webinar on 'E-waste'.

Mr. Mahajan, Ex-Senior Executive, Tata Chemicals Limited, Gujarat, defined waste as an unavoidable by-product for growth and development and minimization can be obtained by recycling, reuse, refuse, recover, reduce and refurbish.

Dr. Manu Sarma, visiting Research Fellow, Guildhall School of Business and Law, London Metropolitan University, London, UK opined that e-waste is not a waste, it is a vital resource which is about to change the direction of prevailing lines 'take, make and dispose' model as the first step towards the circular economy we want to see in the future.

Mr. Sandeep Ganguly mentioned that India approximately generate two million tons of e-waste annually and recycles less than 2% through normal channels whereas global e-waste is estimated to be more than 50 million tons. India is ranked fifth in the top e-waste producing countries after the USA, China, Japan and Germany.