



India's First e-Waste Clinic

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India's first e-waste clinic for **segregating, processing and disposal** of waste from household and commercial units will soon be set-up in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) for its establishment.
- The clinic is a three-month pilot project. If it would be a success, then the same would be replicated throughout the country.
- Electronic waste will either be collected **door-to-door** or could be deposited directly at the clinic by individuals.
- The CPCB will provide **technical support** at the unit and the collected **hazardous waste** will then be sent to **Bengaluru** for **recycling**.

This would ensure **scientific handling and disposal** of electronic waste generated from households and commercial establishments.

- The clinic is being conceived in compliance with the **Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016**. These rules also focus on **segregation of waste at source** and charge user fees for collection, disposal, and processing from the bulk generator.
- In the absence of a safe disposal mechanism, currently, the electronic waste which includes defunct and useless electrical or electronic devices is being discarded along with other household waste. Therefore, there was a dire need for such a clinic that could efficiently and safely segregate and dispose off the hazardous waste.

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

- It is a **statutory organization** that was constituted in September 1974 under the **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974**.
- CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981**.

- Principal **functions** of the CPCB are:
 - to **promote cleanliness** of streams and wells in different areas of the States through prevention, control, and abatement of **water** pollution, and
 - to **improve the quality of air** and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country.
- It also provides **technical services** to the Ministry of Environment and Forests regarding the provisions of the **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**.

Source: TH