Undoubtedly, devices of yesterday become obsolete and end up in the mounting heap of electrical/electronic waste, or e-waste. Much of today’s technology is destined for a similar fate, since sooner or later they will be replaced by faster and better devices. The recovery, recycling and disposal of e-waste poses an ever increasing threat to the future of our planet. Let’s do something before its too late!
What is e-waste?
E-waste comprises of waste generated from used electronic devices and household appliances which are not currently fit for their original intended use and are destined for disposal.

Computers, cellular phones, personal stereos, and electronic household appliances of every nature that is intended to be thrown away, poses a great environmental threat, if not disposed of correctly. E-waste normally contains over 1000 different substances, many of which are toxic and potentially hazardous to the environment and human health, if not handled in an environmentally sound manner.

Why is e-waste harmful?
Composition of e-waste is diverse and differs in products across different categories, falling under hazardous and non-hazardous categories. Iron and steel constitute about 50% of e-waste, followed by plastics (21%), non-ferrous metals (13%) and other constituents. The presence of elements like lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, selenium and hexavalent chromium and flame retardants in e-waste makes them hazardous.

Facts on e-waste
- The e-waste rate in India is expected to exceed 14,00,000 tonnes by 2019
- 220 million tonnes of e-waste is generated annually around the world
- The Volume of e-waste is rising by 3-5% every year
- Flat panel computer monitors and notebooks contain small amounts of mercury
- Cathode ray tubes in old tv’s and computers typically contain between 4 lbs to 7 lbs of lead

Dealing with it, responsibly
Reduce: Maintain and keep equipment as long as possible. A typical computer’s life is 2 years, but can be extended by a couple of years with some upgrading. Buy a good monitor-it can last 6-7 years or more. Consider leasing a computer so you can trade it in for a new one later.
Recycle: Recycling means reclamation and reprocessing of hazardous materials from a production process in an environmentally sound manner.
Reuse: Reuse means hazardous materials are reused for another application or production.

E-waste management at Technopark - A step in a responsible direction
The Technopark campus is an ISO 14001:2015 certified facility. Considering the importance of proper management of e-waste, Technopark has appointed a Government Authorised Agency, M/s Earth Sense Recycle Pvt Ltd. Palakkad to collect e-waste from the companies in the campus as a facilitator, every 3 months.

For further assistance/clarification, please contact:

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