

INDIA'S FIRST E-WASTE CLINIC TO BE SET UP IN BHOPAL

Relevant for: Environment | Topic: Environmental Pollution - Air, Water, Soil & E-waste

The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have joined hands to set up the country's first e-waste clinic here, that would enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.

After inspecting the garbage and plastic recovery centres in Bhanpur here, CPCB officials discussed the clinic with BMC officials. A three-month pilot project, the clinic, if successful, would be replicated elsewhere in the country.

"Electronic waste will be collected door-to-door or could be deposited directly at the clinic in exchange for a fee. The CPCB will provide technical support at the unit," BMC Additional Commissioner Rajesh Rathore told *The Hindu*.

At present, there was no estimate of the quantity of electronic waste generated in the city, he added. "Hazardous waste will be sent to Bengaluru for recycling," he said.

Door-to-door collection will happen in two ways. Either separate carts for the collection of e-waste will be designed, or separate bins will be attached to existing ones meant for solid and wet waste. The clinic is being conceived in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

In the absence of a safe disposal mechanism, electronic waste at present is being disposed of along with other waste, said Mr. Rathore. "A suitable site for the unit is yet to be identified," he added.

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