

Recycling and Waste Management

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Effect on human health by defective E-waste Recycling Practices in India: A case study

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E-waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams in the world. With enormous generation of ewaste, India ranks fifth after China, US, Japan and Germany. According to the Global E-Waste Monitor 2017, India generates about 2 million tonnes (MT) of e-waste annually and has treated only 0.036 MT of its e-waste in 2016-17. In India, over 95 percent of E-waste being treated and processed in the urban slums of the country by informal sector like kabadiwalas, scrap dealers and dismantlers. Extraction of precious metals like Fe, Al, Cu, Cd, Ag, Au, Pd, and Ph by unskilled workers including children without personal protective equipment are detrimental not only to their health but also to the environment. The paper adopts cross-sectional study design to gain insights into health risks and defective recycling practices of workers. Dermal contact, ingestion, and inhalation have been identified as important factors which expose the worker to various health hazardous problems. The study reveals that significant levels of pollutants have been found in the human body either working or associated with informal

WEEE treatment been performed. This indicates that overall the e-waste workers are at the risk of adverse health effects. Therefore, the importance of safety programs and management regulations for e-waste workers cannot be under emphasized.

Speaker Biography

Zofail Hassan is a Research Scholar pursuing his Ph.D (Doctoral Program) from Department of Commerce & Business Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, (A central University, Government of India), New Delhi, India. His area of interest is e-waste management and working under the supervision of Dr. Devendra Kumar Dhusia, a core faculty member of the Department, who has vast experience in the field of academics and research. During his Doctoral Program, he has accolades with ICSSR fellow (Indian Council for Social Sciences Research), which is one of the premium institute for social science research in India established by the Government of India. Recently, he has presented his paper on topic "E-WASTE AWARENESS LEVEL OF END USER'S - A REALITY TEST" in a UGC sponsored national conference held by Aditi Mahavidyalaya, Delhi University and was conferred with best paper award.

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