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India's first e-waste eco-park

- **According to the Global E-Waste Monitor 2020 report released by the United Nations University, in the year 2019, 53.6 million metric tons of e-waste was generated in the world.**
- **It is estimated that by 2030, the global electronic waste will increase by about 38 percent. Now you can imagine how big this problem is and how much it is going to increase in the coming time.**

- In this sequence, recently, the Delhi government has announced that India's first e-waste eco-park will be opened in Delhi.
- Any electronic item such as mobile phone, TV, refrigerator, computer or other equipment / parts related to it, when it gets damaged or becomes no longer usable, it is called e-waste.
- It is divided into 21 types under two broad categories – 1) Information Technology and Communication Equipment and 2) Electrical and Electronics Equipment.
- The biggest reason for the increase in electronic waste around the world is the rapidly increasing consumption of electronic products. The electronic products that we are adopting today have a short life span.
- Because of this they are quickly thrown away. As soon as a new technology comes, the old one is thrown away. Along with this, many countries have limited system of repair and recycling of these products, and even then they are very expensive.
- In such a situation, as soon as a product is defective, people prefer to replace it than to fix it. Because of this, e-waste is also increasing.
- According to another figure, if the total electronic waste generated in the year 2019 had been recycled, it would have given a benefit of about Rs 425,833 crore. This figure is more than the GDP of many countries of the world.
- This increasing electronic waste is having a bad effect not only on the environment, but also on our health. In fact, e-waste contains many toxic components like mercury, cadmium and chromium, which are badly affecting human health due to non-safe disposal. In addition, this e-waste also contaminates the soil and groundwater.
- If we talk about Delhi, then 2 lakh tonnes of e-waste is generated here every year. However, it is not being handled in a scientific and safe manner. This has led to many fatal incidents like fire, which affect the health of the residents of Delhi and the garbage collectors.

- To deal with this problem, the Delhi government has decided to set up India's first electronic-waste eco-friendly park here.
- The waste disposal, recycling and recycling will be done in a safe and scientific manner in this park. The 20-acre park will also create a secondary product sales market for batteries, electronics, and laptops, chargers, mobiles and PCs.
- Collection centers will be set up in 12 zones to channelize e-waste. Those who are doing the work of collecting this electronic waste will also be trained and given proper equipment.
- It is worth noting that since 2011, the rules related to the management of electronic waste are in force in India. Later, the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 was enacted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- For the first time, manufacturers of electronic components were brought under expanded manufacturer responsibility under this rule. Under the rule, producers have been made responsible for the collection and exchange of e-waste and a provision of punishment has also been made in case of violation.

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