FOREWORD

Electronic products have become an integral part of our daily life for providing comfortable, easier and faster lifestyle, which on the other hand has created huge challenge of discarded end-of-life products, i.e. electronic waste (e-waste). Major cities are generating tons of e-waste, a significant part of which is recycled in informal hands, without consideration for health or environment.

E-waste, however, contains significant amount of precious materials, which if recycled at industrial scale can become a viable business and can generate employment in the country. Electronic products also contain toxic substances due to their functional requirements and if proper care is not taken during recycling after end-of-life of the products, their unscientific disposal or recycling can have an adverse impact on human health and environment.

This Ministry’s efforts in creating awareness amongst all stakeholders, from the manufacturers and users to the informal operators, is an endeavour, to help change the mindset of the citizens towards safe disposal of e-waste. We acknowledge the contribution of various agencies, including STPI, NIELIT, MAIT, NASSCOM, CEMA and PHD&CCI in successfully implementing the first phase of programme.

We are committed to continue this programme to create on the hazards of e-waste recycling in the informal sector and to educate all the stakeholders about alternative safe disposal of e-waste in the country.

(Ajay Sawhney)