



## India's capital becoming world's e-waste dumping yard

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A new study has revealed that Delhi-NCR is turning into the world's dumping yard for electronic waste and could collectively generate more than 95,000 metric tons (MT) per annum by 2017.

The main contributor of e-waste in India is the US, which ships about 42 percent of its e-waste in the country, followed by China and the European Union, who dump nearly 30 percent and 18 percent e-wastage in Delhi-NCR respectively. D S Rawat, Secretary General ASSOCHAM, said during the release of the study that less than 2 percent of India's total electronic waste gets recycled due to absence of proper infrastructure, legislation and framework. Majority of the e-waste includes televisions, refrigerators and washing machines. Computers account for another 20 per cent and mobile phones 2 percent.

The paper warned this deadly mix could cause severe health problems in those handling the waste. Printed circuit boards, for instance, contain heavy metals like antimony, gold, silver, chromium, zinc, lead, tin and copper. The method of extracting these materials from circuit boards is highly hazardous and involves heating the metals in the open.

***Source: the deccan chronicle***