

# MKSSS'S SMT. HIRABEN NANAVATI INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH FOR WOMEN

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## REPORT

**Title:** E waste management

**Date:** 28 Jan 2026

**Venue:** Audi

### Learning Objectives:

- **Define E-Waste:** Understand the classification of electronic waste and identify common household and industrial sources.
- **Assess Environmental & Health Impacts:** Recognize the toxic effects of heavy metals (lead, mercury, cadmium) on ecosystems and the specific health risks faced by informal workers.
- **Analyze the Informal Sector:** Examine the operational conditions of major hubs like Seelampur and the socioeconomic challenges of the e-waste business in India.
- **Promote Sustainable Practices:** Learn to identify plastic types and their recycling cycles to motivate eco-friendly habits in daily life.

**Name of the Expert:** Hamsa Iyer

### Report:

The session conducted by Hamsa Iyer at HNIMR offered an in-depth analysis of the e-waste crisis in India, focusing on the intersection of environmental hazards and industrial challenges. A major highlight was the discussion on Seelampur, India's primary e-waste hub, where the speaker detailed the harrowing conditions of workers who dismantle hazardous electronics without any protective gear. These workers face life-threatening health risks, including respiratory failure and neurological damage, due to constant exposure to toxins. Ms. Iyer also addressed the darker side of the industry, involving e-waste crimes and thefts that disrupt the legal recycling chain. She explained the economic paradox where formal e-waste businesses often go out of business because they cannot compete with the low-cost, unregulated informal sector. The session concluded with a practical demonstration on identifying various plastic types and their specific recycling cycles. This comprehensive approach bridged the gap between academic theory and real-world environmental action, instilling a sense of urgency and responsibility in the students to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives.

**This event was organised under the guidance of Director Dr. Priyanka Singh and coordinated by Prof. Ranjana Gogate & Prof. Kamalakar Munde, Cell Coordinator of Community Development Cell**

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## Learning Outcomes:

- **Enhanced Awareness:** Students can now differentiate between formal and informal recycling and understand the "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" strategy for electronics.
- **Health & Safety Knowledge:** Participants recognized the critical need for protective equipment (PPE) and the dangers of open-air burning of wires and circuit boards.
- **Business Insight:** Gained an understanding of why the formal recycling industry faces economic hurdles in the Indian market.
- **Actionable Skills:** Acquired the ability to identify different plastic types (e.g., PET, HDPE) and ensure they enter the correct recycling streams.

**Name of the Faculty In-charge:** Prof. Ranjana Gogate

**Community Development Cell**

**Prof. Ranjana Gogate**



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