

From the Chairman's Desk

General Motors & Raju Bhagarwalla

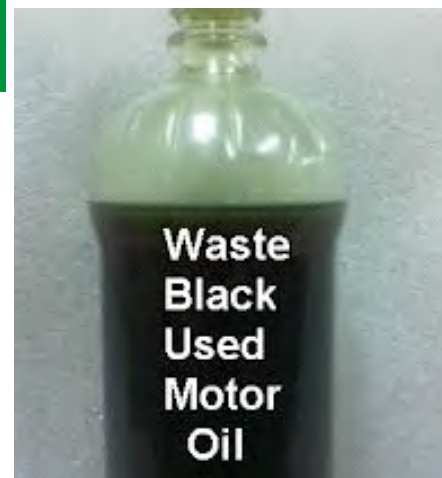


Rajendra Shende
Chairman, TERRE

Raju is 'bhangarwal la' (one who collects all kinds of solid waste from house to house and makes money by selling it to recyclers). He is one of the thousands of Indians engaged in such activities. He migrated from village in another State in India a decade back and established his 'bhangar' business in open space, not used and noticed by any one in Pune. He is ready to shift his business premises any time if any one objects, because his business is conducted in open only with a weighing balance. And there are other places in the city where a small payment to police would suffice to continue the business until some one notices him again. Most of the time he is 'conspicuous by his invisibility!' That is because of nature of his business. Heaps of waste amidst

which he sits is camouflaged by the typical crowded, dusty and busy Indian streets in the cities. He is a willing 'business noma'. His business model is simple. He gets one Indian rupee (about 2 USA cents) per kg of scrap steel or paper that he collects by paying to one who provides the waste and selling to the one who takes it for the recycling. For glass and plastics it is half or less for each Kg. He aims for about Indian Rupees INR- 300-400 (USD 6 to 8) per day. If you consider the definition of 'Poverty Line' as per Planning Commission of India which is INR28.65 per capita in cities and INR22.42 in rural areas, Raju is a "rich guy". Sadly, he has no shelter of his own and his business place is on the roads, lanes and by-lanes. But, surprisingly he does have his very own business and operational strategies. He starts his business early in the morning, and focuses on the remote area around which he has no competitors. I live in such place, up the hill and away from the city.

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Management of used motor oil

On average, about four million people reuse motor oil as a lubricant for other equipment or take it to a recycling facility. Recycled used motor oil can be re-refined into new oil, processed into fuel oils and used as raw materials for the petroleum industry. One gallon of used motor oil provides the same 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil as 42 gallons of crude oil. Become used motor oil recycler number four million and one!

1. Do not spill any oil on the ground.
2. Put your used motor oil in a clean plastic container with a tight lid. Never store used oil in a container that once held chemicals, food, or beverages.
3. Do not mix the oil with anything else, such as antifreeze, solvent, or paint.
4. Take used motor oil to a service station or other location that collects used motor oil for recycling.

Medical Waste Management



The world is generating more and more waste and hospitals and health centres are no exception.

Medical waste can be infectious, contain toxic chemicals and pose contamination risks to both people and the environment.

If patients are to receive health care and recover in safe surroundings, waste must be disposed of safely.

Mail back system :

Discarded needles may expose waste workers to potential injuries and infection when containers break open inside garbage trucks or needles are mistakenly sent to recycling facilities.

Thus to destroy sharp equipments, they can be placed in

special containers and return the container by mail to a collection site for proper disposal. This process requires certain fees which varies according to places.

At - Home Needle Destruction Devices :

Several manufacturers offer products that allow you to destroy used needles at home.

These devices sever, burn, or melt the needle, rendering it safe for disposal.

Reusable containers :

The apparatus needed for the medical purpose can be sterilized and used again. Reusable containers can significantly reduce the medical waste stream and reduce storage and disposal costs.

Training by experts :

The staff can be trained by the experts to avoid wastage and hygienically use the apparatus and medical help can be effectively given. This will educate the users as well as create awareness in one's mind for reducing the waste.

General Motors and Raju

From page no. 1

I see him regularly. One of those days I asked him, what he is doing to increase his earning. In today's management terms it was like asking a CEO, 'what is your business projections and vision over next few years?' 'I want to recruit more boys whom I will deploy to cover more houses in suburbs which are fast expanding and if I myself shift my focus in the cities which now have growing tendencies to throw away more and more, my business will grow', said Raju. I was quite surprised. In today's managements terms he was focusing on expansion, volume and geographical market fragmentation and not on 'price structures' or not even 'resource efficiency'. After all Raju was a CEO with ground realities. In 2011 UNEP produced a report titled Towards a Green Economy. It described an economy that results in improved human well-being as well as social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. The report provides number of cases like that of General Motors who saved millions of dollars through resource efficiencies. Raju, who is busy in collecting scrap steel including discarded auto parts, probably produced in the shops of General Motors, for recycling, is unaware of Green Economy definition of UNEP. And General Motors is equally unaware of Raju's efforts to make their business more resource efficient. But I am sure, UNEP, one day will be aware of such 'Green Entrepreneurships' and report the case study in their next report.

Reader's Speak

Good as per your normal tradition. 3R to 5R is a great mantra, which should be propagated.

P. B. Kulkarni,

Former Chairman, Bank of Maharashtra





It is observed that, E-waste means discarded electrical or electronic devices. These are piling up at an alarming rate cause of the advance technology and change in designs of the machines and new trends. Thus we need to take proper steps to reduce it, and avoid a serious health and pollution problem in developed as well as developing countries.

Computers: Obsolete computers account for a majority of the overall e-waste currently found in landfills. Thus here are relatively safe options to clear the old machines and make space for the new ones.

Option 1: If your computers are in working condition, you can donate them to a school or an organization working in the field of education. Before donating your computer or other electronics, make sure the equipment is reusable.

Donation organizations have limited or in many cases no resources and employees to diagnose and repair hardware.

A functional, working system - especially with monitor, wiring, and software licenses - is a lot more useful and requires less upgrading than a nonworking, incomplete

computer.

Check to see what the donation organization's minimum computer requirements are (e.g., Pentium processor, Windows 98).

Where to donate???

There are certain NGO, Schools which need computers and can afford to take the old computers than buying the new ones.

Eg: United way of Mumbai, childline India are few amongst them



Option 2: If your computers are out of order, return them back to the manufacturer.

Recycling electronics helps reduce pollution that would be generated while manufacturing a new product and therefore the pressure on natural resources. It also reduces the energy used in new product manufacturing.

The companies which have take back facilities are????

Two brands stand out as having the best take back practice in India: HCL and WIPRO.

Other brands that do relatively well are: Nokia, Acer, Motorola and LGE. Nokia has 354 collection points, takes back for free, but the service is only working in the big

cities.

Option 3: Send them to a recycling facility for proper disposal.



Which ones????

Here are few units in INDIA which have having environmentally sound management facilities.

1. M/s Ramky E-waste Recycling Facility, Andrapradesh
2. M/s Ash Recyclers, Unit-II, Karnataka



Quick Question

About how long does it take a Styrofoam cup to decompose?

- ☐ 10 years
- ☐ 2 months
- ☐ 400 years
- ☐ 150 years



Last Issue's Answer

Vegetable peels forms important part of the organic waste produced.

Quick Answer

Mr. H. V. Paranjape



Street lamps in Scotland could switch to 100% low-energy bulbs

Ministers unveil plans for the green investment bank to fund a Scotland-wide LED lighting programme

Every street light in Scotland could be fitted with low-energy LED bulbs as part of ambitious plans to cut CO2 emissions, ministers declared. The Scottish government unveiled proposals for the green investment bank (GIB) to fund the Scotland-wide LED lighting programme as part of a £500m package of climate and green energy measures. The environment group WWF Scotland said its figures suggested that street lighting caused a significant amount of carbon emissions. The 40,000 street lights in Aberdeenshire are responsible for 8,750 tonnes of CO2, with energy bills hitting £1.6m, it said. Fife council's street lights made up 10% of its total carbon footprint. Richard Lochhead, the Scottish environment secretary, said that the investment quango the Scottish Futures Trust had estimated that investing about £350m in low-carbon measures could cut energy bills by £900m.



"Payback time is estimated at around seven to nine years, which is an outstanding spend to save case based on energy savings of as much as 40 to 60%. It is an excellent example of how investing in low-carbon projects can have long-term savings as well as helping to protect the environment," Lochhead said. Achim Steiner, executive director of UNEP, said: "A far more sophisticated approach is urgently needed to address the challenges of recycling complex products, which contain a broad variety of interlinked metals and materials. Product designers need to ensure that materials such as rare earth metals in products ranging from solar panels and wind turbine magnets to mobile phones can still be recovered easily when they reach the end of their life."

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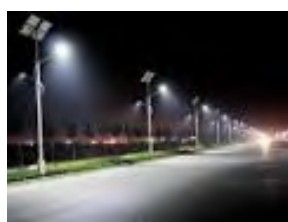
Very soon Londoners can have drinking water been through the kidneys of at least seven other people, if the public reaction to

Thames Water's proposal to recycle its sewage water goes their way. "It's all about making sure there is enough water to go around, now and in the future," says Simon Evans, spokesman for the water company. At the moment they supply 9 million people with water; by 2040, they predict of supplying 10.4 million people and hence are going to need additional water." In the next 10 years,

fixing leaky pipes, installing water

building new reservoirs, or transferring water from the Midlands, the north or parts of Wales. "The third

## London takes a poll : are you happy to drink recycled sewage water?



should be adequate to meet demand, but after 2025, Thames Water believes more drastic measures will be needed. This could involve

meters and encouraging people to get their 160 litres-a-day usage down to 150 litres

[option] is wastewater reuse," says Evans. Thames Water are testing public opinion. "The fact we're having this conversation a good 15 years before this would even happen is a good thing because people would get used to it," says Evans. "It's all about public perception, that's the main hurdle here." Source: newspaper guardian (environment)

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