

# Science Reporter



**MANAGING E-WASTE**  
The cover story by Ms Akanksha Tyagi in the SR May 2013 issue, **The Scourge of Electronic Waste**, drew our attention towards the less discussed issue of electronic waste and its management, as well as its dangerous effects on the



environment. Nowadays, as the quantity of electronic waste is increasing exponentially there is an urgent need for effective e-waste management. It is also true that India is capable of managing e-waste effectively but due to ignorance there are hardly any serious efforts.

**Sameeran Sahu**  
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**E-WASTE MENACE**  
The intellectual attempt of the article **Cradle to Grave Circuit** is worth appreciation.



The suggestions that have been put forward towards the better management of WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) are really practical and environmentally sound.

The entire world needs to show serious concern about the management of e-wastes. So far this seriousness has been lacking within the citizens throughout the globe (however there have been some positive steps but only by a few handful). The analysis of the types of the e-wastes produced, the hazards that follow with their lackadaisical management and what steps need to be compulsorily taken for their proper disposal need to be discussed and well executed.

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## DECREPITUDE OF SCIENCE

Science has battled religious outlook (model of the universe and laws of inheritance), gender inequality (Marie Curie and Rosalind Franklin), superstitions, and several other hurdles. But today it seems science has merely been confined to letters in a fat book



and examination sheets. Today, about 80% of the students are not aware of what they are studying. Concepts like friction are confined to bookish definitions alone.

I and my friend Shubhanker Paul, interviewed almost 50 students around us to know their opinions about science. About 60% of them defined science as "studies limited to technology". Some defined it as "today's life" and some as "knowledge".

On probing their knowledge about the scope of science, 95% of them said "engineers, doctors and scientists."

Over 95 % of them claimed cell phones and computers to be pre-eminent inventions.

Students who pursued science as their subject regarded mathematics and science as two different fields.

With such inappropriate knowledge about their subject, those opting for science often do not find lucrative employment. Science and its status can only be improved when students, despite their heavy syllabus, dare to look beyond their course and expand their horizons wider. The state of science can

be altered when the imagination and intellect of the students is not hostage to the fear of doing good in exams. Rather than only

worrying about passing exams and earning loads of money, students need to set out on a voyage to discover. Only then will there be true growth of science.

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## ICON OF SCIENCE

The article on Vikram Sarabhai published in the January 2013 issue gave rare information about his life and work. His contribution in different fields (science and technology management, social concern, etc.) is a motivation



for every young Indian. Sarabhai's attitudes such as time management, service to the motherland, simplicity, and initiative should be adopted by young science aspirants. His pioneering effort in Indian space technology provided a platform for our remarkable space achievements. At the age of 52, his death was a great loss to our country.

**Prabhakaran G.N.**  
Chennai

## WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any comments about any article published in *Science Reporter*, or have some information to share with our readers, do write to us at:

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