

Rotary
RID 3240



HARMONY

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FOR
GOOD



Francesco Arezzo
RI President 2025-26



Dr. Kameswar S. Elangbam
District Governor RID 3240



Chandana Das
President, Rotary Club of Shillong

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Pre-Christmas Celebration at Rilang Children's Home



Turning e-waste into critical resources

*Your e-waste can bridge an important gap
and become a national asset.*

With geopolitics and tariffs impacting global supply chains, self-sufficiency has become the buzzword all over the world. Among the most discussed raw materials in India are rare minerals critical to our growth. These include lithium, cobalt, nickel, rare earth elements, copper and graphite. All these are essential for wind turbines, solar panels, batteries, electric vehicles and producing low-carbon technologies.

These minerals are considered rare because they are only found in specific geographical regions, such as China and parts of Africa. While India has started to mine for these minerals, experts believe that a significant contribution towards self-sufficiency can be achieved by recovering these minerals from our e-waste.

This is where we can help as citizens. E-waste includes a wide range of discarded devices that we 'use and junk' like smartphones, computers, televisions, and household appliances like refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, batteries, modems and routers.

The thinking now is that e-waste can be scientifically recycled to recover rare minerals like lithium, nickel, cobalt, graphite, antimony, cadmium, gallium, silicon, tin, tungsten, titanium, vanadium and zirconium, among others. However, for this to happen, citizens must make an effort.

The cardinal principle to follow before discarding electronic goods is to determine whether they can be refurbished and reused by someone else. If they can be, then one can extend the lifespan of these goods and reduce the carbon footprint required to manufacture them afresh. In this

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Congratulations!!!



Congratulations to
PDG Rtn. (Dr.) Debashish Das
for having got appointed as RIPR to
District 3262 during their District
Conference from the 31st of January to the
2nd of February 2026.
Wishing you many more accolades.
We are proud of you!!!!



Pre-Christmas Celebration in the Club



GREETINGS

*Rtn. S.S. Guha and Anne Yangi celebrate their anniversary
on 27th December 2025*

*Members of Rotary Club of Shillong wish you
many happy returns of the day*

Turning e-waste into critical resources *(Contd from page 1)*

context, it may be wise to choose products from manufacturers committed to sustainability and who have a 'take-back' programme in which they accept their used products from customers.

In fact, there is a mandate under the E-waste Management Rules 2022, which came into effect in April 2023. Under it all manufacturers are expected to follow the Extended Producer Responsibility norm where they are required to ensure safe collection and recycling of their respective products.

So, how can we help to support the circular economy as individuals in our day-to-day life? The first thing, say experts, is not to allow large number of devices such as smartphones, laptops, tablets, batteries to fester in our drawers and cupboards at home. When I was speaking to a friend the other day, she told me she had at least five old mobiles lying in her drawer as she is so attached to the devices that she finds it difficult to part with them. So, she thought, the next best thing to do is to stash the phones deep inside her drawer and forget about them.

Is she right in what she does? I am sure most of us would agree that it is not a wise thing to do. Indeed, if my friend was half-serious about doing some good for the environment and her country, she would have given the discarded mobiles to an authorised recycler who would have mined valuable minerals from the devices gathering dust in her drawer.

Coming back to our role in all this, where do we begin? For a start, we could all try to reduce our e-footprint. If you are looking for an electronic device like a laptop, printer, smartphone, or even an air conditioner, it would be wise to go in for a refurbished one. Do a bit of research on refurbished devices and approach a vendor who has a good reputation in the world of refurbishing. When I was in Delhi, a friend introduced me to someone who refurbishes laptops. I bought one of his machines. The laptop was refurbished to perfection and was so much cheaper that I didn't feel a big dent on my pocket. Believe it or not, it gave me many years of unstinted service. *(Source-Rotary News: Preeti Mehra)*

