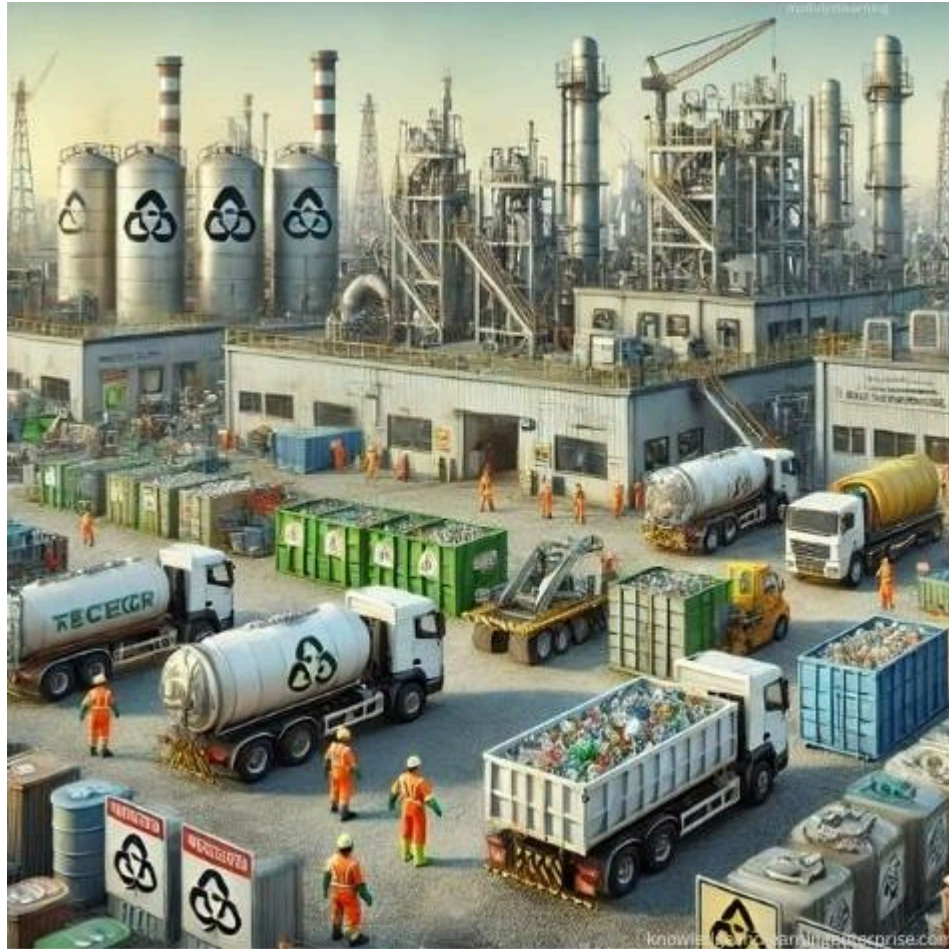


Import of Hazardous Waste



The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 (HOWM Rules, 2016) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes in an environmentally sound manner without adverse effects on the environment and human health.

The HOWM Rules, 2016 allow the import of hazardous wastes listed in Part A of Schedule III for recycling, recovery, reuse, and utilization including co-processing. Import of hazardous waste is not permitted for disposal in India. The import of hazardous waste listed in Part A of Schedule III is allowed only to actual users with permission from the MoEF&CC and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade license, if applicable.

Any import of hazardous waste without permission of the MoEF&CC by HOWM Rules, 2016 is treated as illegal, and under Schedule VII of the HOWM Rules, 2016, Ports and Customs Authority are entrusted with the responsibility of taking action against the importer for violations under the Indian Ports Act, 1908 or Customs Act, 1962.

As per the Annual inventory submitted by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), about 5.47 lakhs MT of hazardous wastes was imported by entities located in 10 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Under Schedule VII of the HOWM Rules, 2016, the SPCBs/PCCs are entrusted with the duties of granting & renewing Authorization, Monitoring compliance with various provisions of these rules, and taking action against the violation of these rules amongst other duties.

Reference: [Parliament Question:- Import of Hazardous Waste](#)

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