

# STATE OF WASTE

## LEGACY WASTE

With just 150 days left to meet the urban “Lakshya Zero Dumpsite” target by 2026, India has cleared 65% of its legacy waste. Some 43% of land affected by legacy waste has been reclaimed



## E-WASTE

India’s e-waste generation has increased by 83% over 8 years. In 2025-2026, however, the processing of e-waste has slowed



## MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE

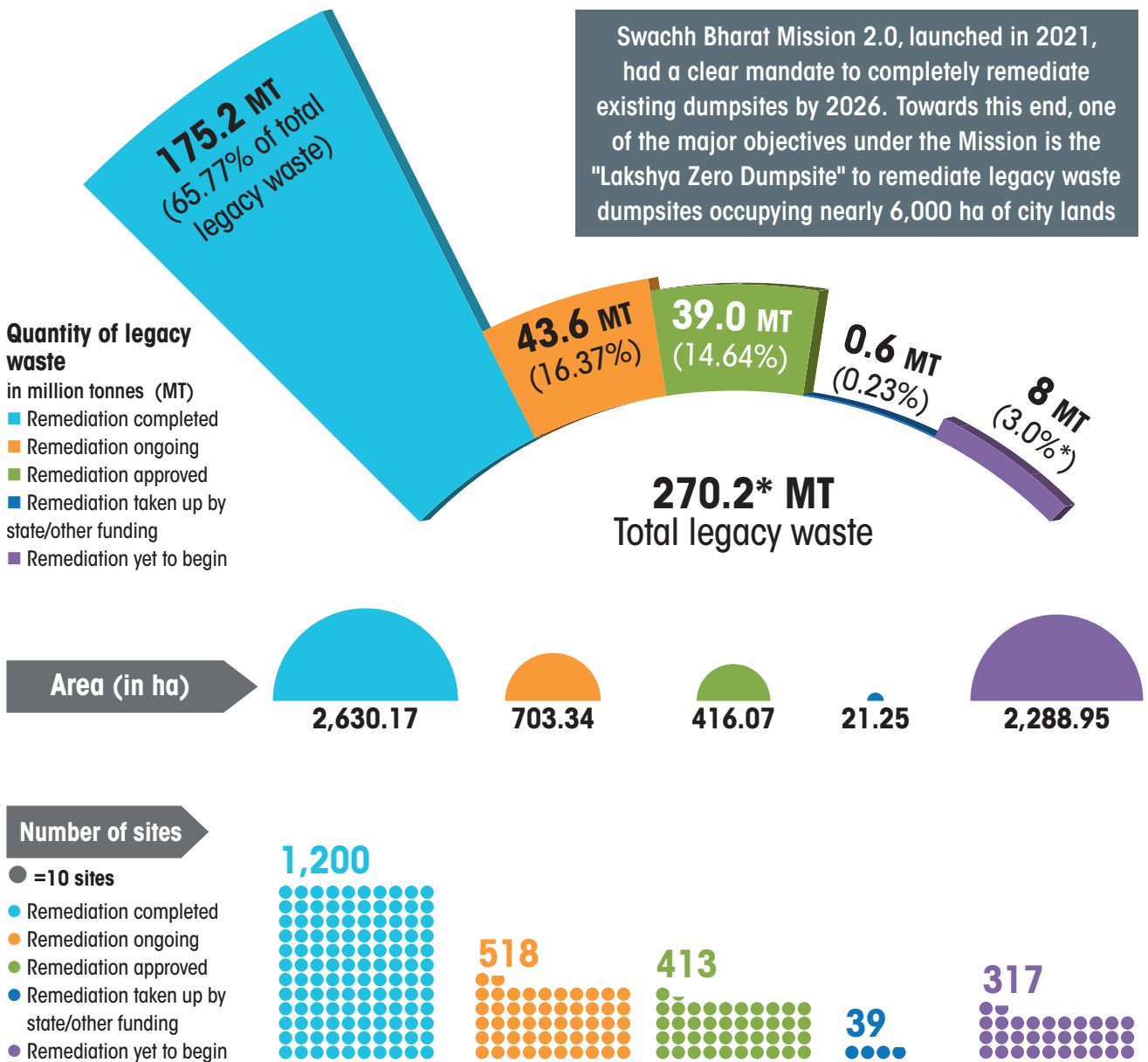
Five states have failed to process more than 60% of the municipal solid waste they generate each day. This is despite the fact that 88% of wards in India practise waste segregation at source

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With five months left to meet its 2026 target, India has cleared nearly 65% of its legacy waste. Cleanup work is ongoing for another 16%, while 3% has not yet been taken up. The remaining 15% are either approved or being taken up by state/other funding groups. Of the 6,060 hectares (ha) of land affected by legacy waste, 43% has been reclaimed, 19% is under remediation or has received approval, while nearly 38% remains unaddressed

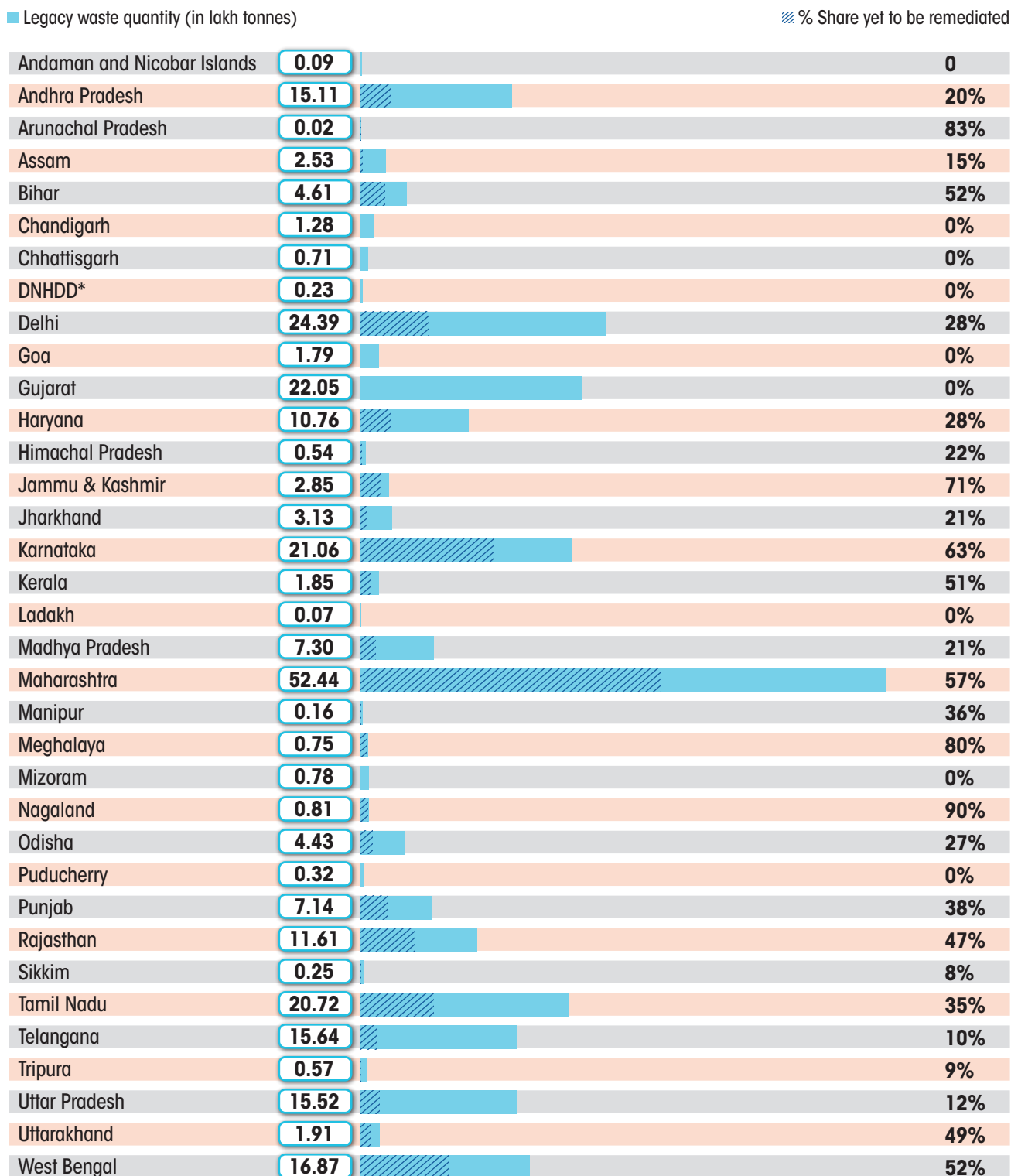
Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, launched in 2021, had a clear mandate to completely remediate existing dumpsites by 2026. Towards this end, one of the major objectives under the Mission is the "Lakshya Zero Dumpsite" to remediate legacy waste dumpsites occupying nearly 6,000 ha of city lands



\*Total legacy waste reported in the dashboard is 270.2 MT. However, the cumulative quantity across all remediation status categories—completed, ongoing, approved, taken up by the state, and yet to begin—adds up to only 266.4 MT. Source: Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 dashboard, accessed on May 18, 2026.

# LONG WAY TO GO

Over 25% of legacy waste remains unremediated in at least 17 states and Union Territories, including Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal, Kerala and Delhi (as on May 2026)

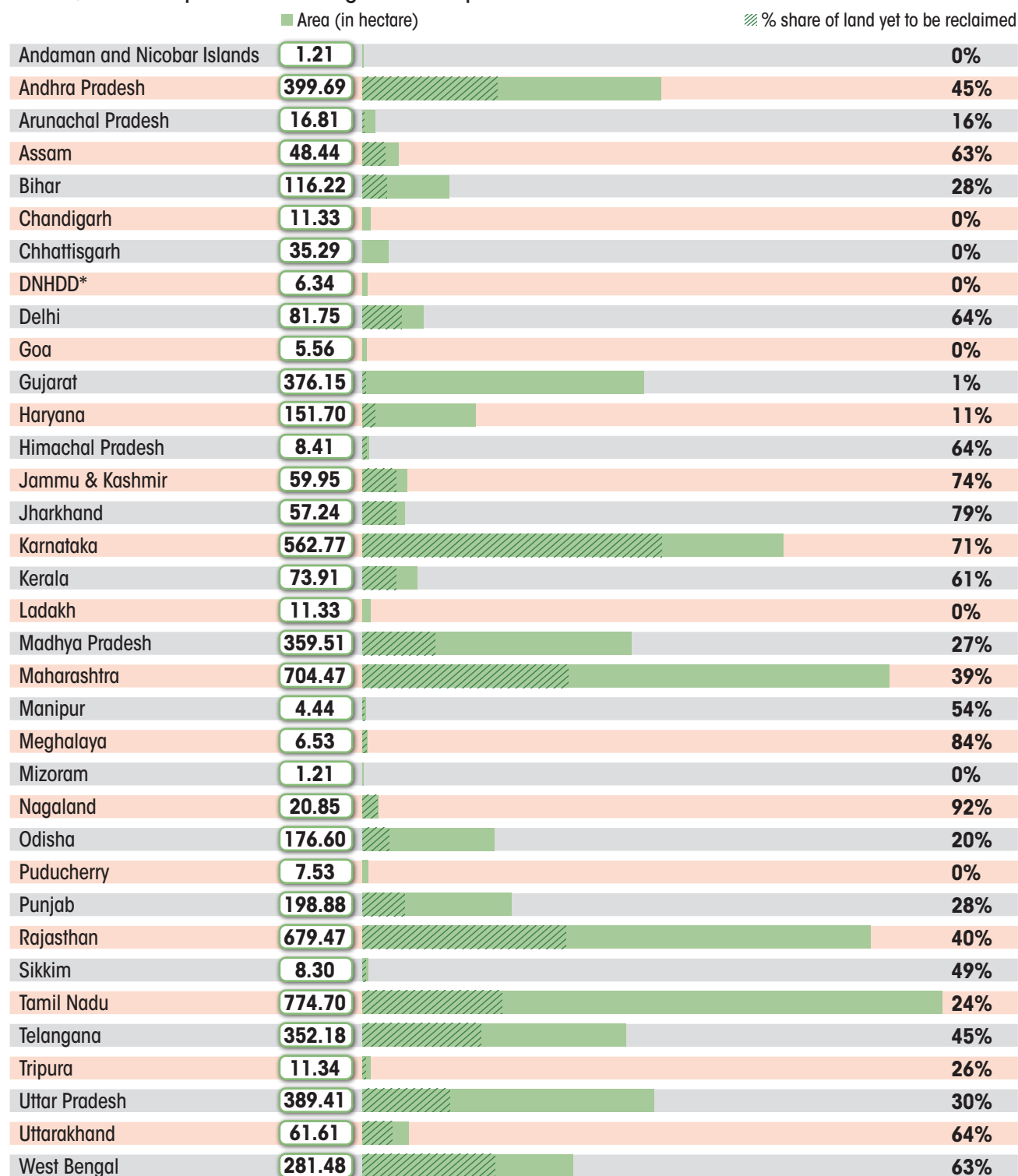


\*Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu; Source: Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 dashboard, accessed on May 18, 2026

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## LAND TRAP

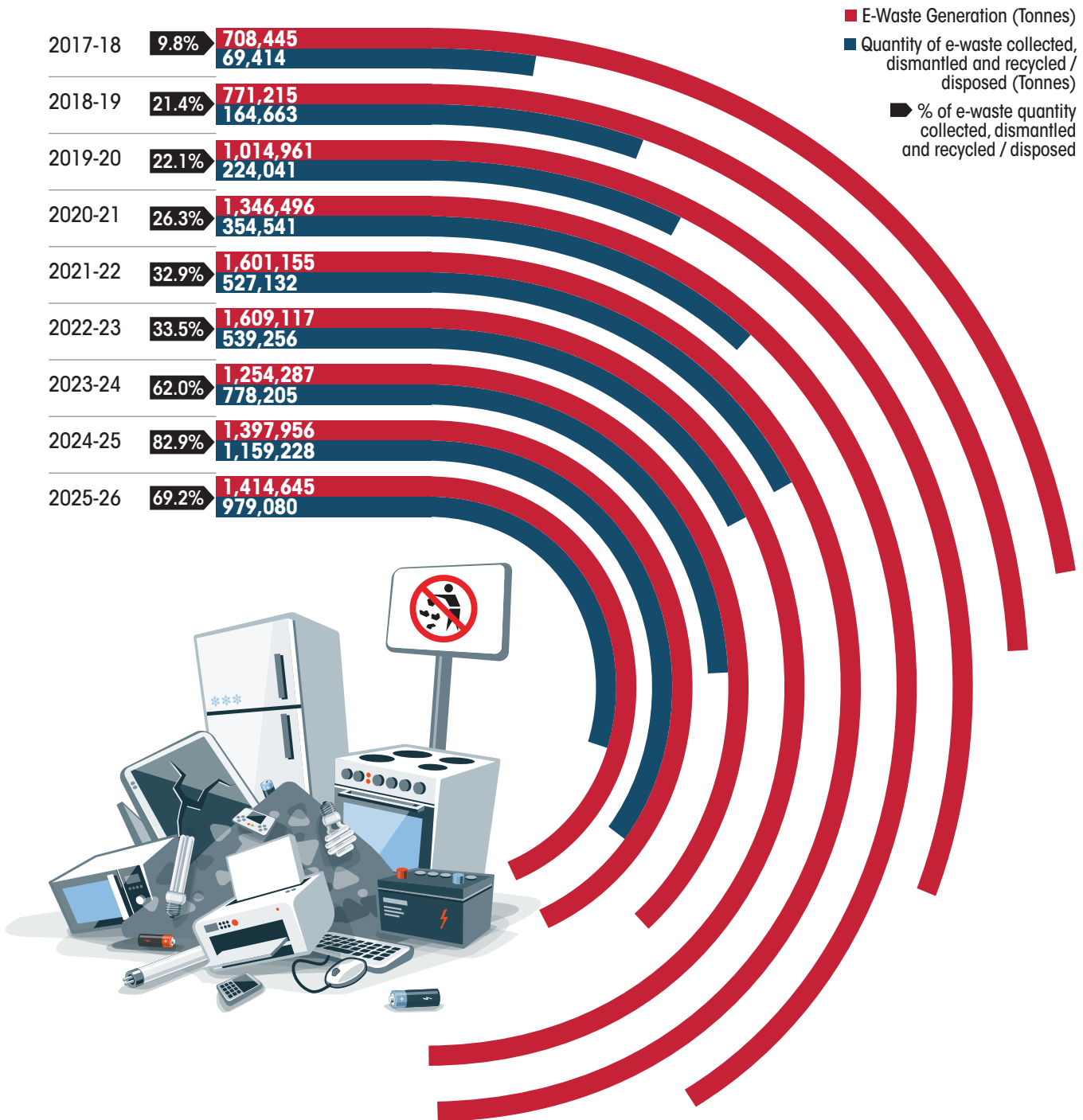
In 12 states and Union Territories, including Karnataka and Delhi, more than half of the land affected by legacy waste is yet to be reclaimed. Four north-eastern states—Nagaland, Meghalaya, Assam, and Manipur—are among the worst performers



\*Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu; Source: Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 dashboard, accessed on May 18, 2026

# E-WASTE

India has witnessed a 83% rise in e-waste generation over 8 years, increasing from 0.8 MT in 2018-19 to at least 1.42 MT in 2025-26. The share of e-waste processed too, increased from 21.4 % in 2018-19 to 82.9 % in 2024-25, but decreased to 69.2% in 2025-26, indicating a slowdown. Nearly 31% of e-waste remained untreated in 2025-26



Source: Replies to Lok Sabha questions by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on March 6, 2026 and March 16, 2026.