



Waste Management



Context

Responsible disposal of pharmaceutical waste is critical in preventing soil and water contamination. This could eventually cause antibiotic resistance to bacteria living in the sewage and other negative environmental impacts². Furthermore, open disposal of pharmaceutical waste in landfills could lead to potential misuse and unauthorized resale³. Contamination of water due to irresponsible disposal could further damage aquatic life severely⁴.

In India, pharmaceutical waste-driven pollution is a significant cause of anti-microbial resistance, especially in children. 90% of APIs for generic medicines in the EU are chiefly sourced from India and China. This creates a lot of pressure for increased supply and rapid turnaround times on shipments, leading to burgeoning in unmonitored disposals of pharmaceutical waste.

Granules takes utmost care to ensure end-to-end waste management throughout our value chain, right from the material sourcing stage. Throughout all our operations, we work diligently to reduce waste generation by using resources responsibly and expanding our recycling and reuse initiatives. We have implemented several strategies aimed at minimizing waste and reducing the amount sent to landfills.

Approach

Our waste management strategy is centered on minimizing waste generation, maximizing recycling and reuse, and reducing landfill contributions. We are dedicated to establishing baseline measurements and benchmarking waste reduction initiatives that align with our sustainability goals. By striving for a circular economy, we aim to limit waste and pollution while promoting practices that positively impact the climate and the environment.

To manage waste effectively, we prioritize waste avoidance and reduction and continuously seek to improve our recycling rates across all operations. Our commitment to sustainability is reinforced by our adherence to ISO 14001 standards, which guide our waste management practices.

A key aspect of our approach is engaging stakeholders throughout our value chain to foster a culture of sustainability. We work closely with suppliers to ensure responsible sourcing and minimize waste at the production stage. By integrating sustainability into every phase of our value chain, we aim to reduce resource consumption and implement effective waste management strategies contributing to a more sustainable future.

² https://www.researchgate.net/publication/374865554_Pharmaceutical_Waste_Disposal_Current_Practices_and_Regulations_Review#:~:text=Improper%20disposal%20of%20these%20medications,resistance%20and%20other%20environmental%20issues.

³ <https://iris.paho.org/bitstream/handle/10665.2/8837/1418.pdf;jsessionid=67E4D08A17858ED5F72DA12A343D3078?sequence=1>

⁴ <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/3854026c-en/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/3854026c-en>



Our Goal

Achieve Zero waste to landfill by 2030

88.1%

Hazardous Waste sent for Reuse
(Co-processing)

100%

Non-hazardous Waste sent
for Reuse/Recycle

Actions & Initiatives

Disposing Mindfully

We are also highly conscious about the way we manage and dispose of our waste. We strictly adhere to national rules and regulations on waste disposal for the different categories of waste we generate:

Disposal of different types of waste



Plastic Waste

Recycling & disposal as per Central Govt. rules & Plastic Waste Management Rules



E-waste

Disposed through a registered recycler



Hazardous Waste

Sent to treatment, storage, disposal facility or cement industries for further treatment/reuse



Biomedical Waste

Disposed through authorized common bio-medical waste facilities

Generating Lesser Waste

We firmly believe that generating less waste is one of the central elements of an intelligent waste management system. Our industry inherently creates high volumes of solvents, hazardous waste, and non-hazardous waste. Through a combination of process optimization, co-processing, and clean manufacturing techniques, we are prioritizing the minimization of waste generation in our everyday operations. We also have a dedicated process flow for waste disposal.

Plastic waste is sent for recycling to an authorized third party. We are also committed to the proper management of construction waste in our journey toward achieving a platinum rating from IGBC. We have stringent monitoring mechanisms in place for waste segregation and diversion of at least 50% of construction waste from landfills.

Our non-hazardous waste volumes have remained stable over the years, reflecting consistent management practices. In FY 24, we observed an increase in hazardous and biomedical waste generation compared to FY 23, driven by our successful efforts to expand production capacity over the past three years. However, e-waste generation has dropped significantly. Additionally, our waste intensity per rupee of turnover has improved, reducing to 0.157 in FY 24 from 0.192 in FY 23, while waste intensity per metric tonne of production saw a slight increase.

Weight of Recycled Waste (in Metric Tonnes)

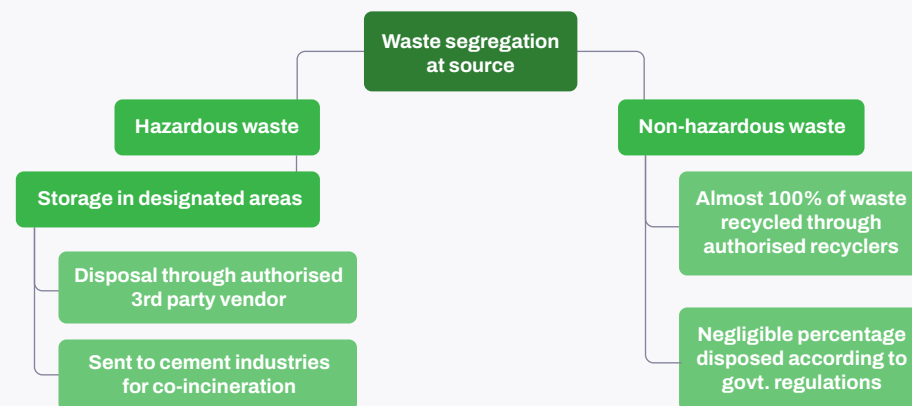
3,281

2023-24

3,034

2022-23

Waste Stream Flowchart



Co-processing is our most preferred choice of waste disposal. We send a negligible share of waste to landfills and for incineration.





Waste	Unit	FY 23	FY 24
Haz. Waste disposed to Landfill	MT	406.32	398.373
Haz. Waste disposed to Incineration	MT	63.235	71.52
Haz. Waste disposed to Co-processing	MT	2,664.07	3,482.355
Total Hazardous Waste	MT	3,133.6	3,952.2
Plastic Waste	MT	1,081.7	1,106.6
Non-Hazardous Waste (Other than Plastic Waste)	MT	1,946.9	2,170.3
Biomedical Waste	MT	1.228	3.009
E-waste	MT	1.55	1.26
Waste Oil	MT	3.5	2.57
Total Waste	MT	6,169	7,236
Waste Intensity	MT/Tonnes of Production	0.108	0.119

Granules Commit to Environmental Sustainability with CPCB-EPR Registration

In FY 24, Granules registered with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) framework, aligning with Plastic Waste Management Rules, demonstrating commitment to waste management and sustainability.

The EPR framework holds producers accountable for their products' lifecycle, focusing on plastic waste. Granules' compliance not only meets legal requirements but reduces waste, promotes recycling, and enhances resource efficiency, reinforcing its dedication to minimizing environmental impact and supporting a circular economy.



Outlook

Our goal is to enhance waste management by integrating circularity principles across the value chain and achieving 'Zero Waste to Landfill' status by 2030. We aim for a 13% annual reduction in landfill waste, with plans to co-process 90% of our waste by 2025 and 95% by 2026.

Our new subsidiary, Granules CZRO, is focused on rethinking the pharmaceutical value chain for decarbonization, with waste management as a key component. We aspire to lead in responsible consumption and production in our region, viewing effective waste management as a vital commitment.

