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Municipal sanitary workers opinion about the public's on municipal solid waste management practices in Bengaluru city

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Abstract

The paper explores the solid waste management issues in Bengaluru city. As of 2014, Bengaluru is the third most populous city of India, experiencing a huge growth in its massive population. The present population of Bengaluru city is 1,01,78,146 (As per 2011 census - males 4,401,299 and females 4,024,671 totalling 84,25, 970). There are 198 wards under the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Every day Bangaloreans produce 35,000 metric tons of solid waste. There are different ways and means to collect the solid waste in the city. In Bengaluru city, every day 16,000 Garbage Disposal workers are paid by the BBMP. At present, many private agencies are also working in managing solid waste.

The present study is exploring about the opinions of the municipal workers regarding the public's Municipal solid waste management practices in Bengaluru city.

Keywords: Municipal Sanitary workers, solid waste management, garbage, disposal, health, civil society.

Introduction

Urban centers are becoming a hub of wastes. Due to speedy urbanization and industrialization, urban wastes are increasing rampantly. Solid waste management is the basic service provided by the municipal administration. The quantity of waste generation in India is comparatively less than other under developed countries and much lower than the developed countries. Population size and geographical characteristics determine the waste production in India. The major reasons for the inadequacy and inefficiency in the waste management services are apathy of municipal authorities, no system of primary collection from the doorstep, irregular street sweeping (the sanitary workers have been forced to follow traditional method of short broom usage, hand carts, tricycle, etc.), waste storage depots (the traditional methods do not match with the primary collection and secondary waste storage system), improper waste transportation, and absence of community participation. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has estimated that waste generation will exceed 260 million tons / year by 2047, and it will be more than five times the present level. Only in a few cities of India, the waste processing done properly. The majority of Indian cities do not follow the waste processing scientifically. The processing is done without segregation. In some of the towns, it would be appreciated that vermicompost is being produced from the processed waste. In fact, neglect of waste disposal leads to environment pollution and health hazards to the community. Various techniques and technologies exist for proper solid waste management in India. One of the oldest method followed in India is composting or vermin composting (through this natural organic manure is produced). The largest vermin compost plant in India is located in Bengaluru and produces 100 metric ton /day. The household collection of garbage and disposal is the long- term responsibility of the Bengaluru City Corporation. However, from the year 2000 onwards, Bengaluru City Corporation has instituted door - to - door collection of garbage by sanitary workers. In some localities, both door- to- door collection as well as municipal bin system is followed. To avoid garbage collecting on the roads, it is removed to the dust- bins in the localities and door-to-door collection of garbage is encouraged. The latter practice has been made mandatory by the BBMP. Therefore, majority of the household waste is collected on a daily basis.

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