

Study of strategies for solid waste management: A case study in Narammala urban area

Extended Abstract

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Background

There are various kinds of environmental problems in our small island. Waste Management is a global issue which calls for maximum attention. Municipal Solid Waste Management is one of the most popular environmental problems facing by Sri Lankans. Solid waste management is to manage the society's waste in a manner that meets public health and environmental concerns and the public's desire to reuse and recycle waste material (Pugh, 1999). Industrialization, increasing things which people use, complex of life style cause to increase amount and category of waste. Lack of organized systems on waste collection, waste transport, intermediate treatment and suitable waste disposal have been contributing to aggravate the solid waste problem in the country (Resources, 2014). The present hazard waste disposal practices have created many environmental problems and numerous nuisances on general public. Narammala is the one of urban areas which is suffering from the solid waste management problem.

Objectives

All the urban areas in Sri Lanka have faced serious problems of societal environmental hazards. It is good to find out what are the hazards and suggest ways of reducing, above hazards, and also this study is very useful for the future researchers. After this research people can practice the solid waste management strategy and they can control their unnecessary habits. On the other hand, they can use suitable health to prevent the diseases related to the solid waste. The overall aim of the study was to examine the existing solid waste management strategy & propose the more effective strategies for Narammala urban area. Specific objectives of this research were to identify the existing management system, to identify the sources of solid waste, to identify the industries & businessmen opinions, to

introduce proper waste management methods for Narammala urban area and to identify possibility to apply solid waste management strategies for Narammala urban area.

Methodology

Narammala area situated in Kurunegala district of North Western Province was selected to this research. There are about 57,508 of people living in 54 GN divisions and 99.68 sq in this town and their major livelihoods are practicing business and working as government officers. This town has 800 business men. Both of primary and secondary data were used for this study. Primary data collected by field observation, using questionnaire and participatory observation. As secondary data books, magazines, news paper articles leaflets and internet were used. SPSS was used to analysis the data using qualitative and quantitative methods. The data were presented by graphs, charts and tables.

Results

Most of the people dispose their waste inside of the shops. There are 16,171 houses in Narammala urban area. They dispose 20 tons wastes per day. Pradeshiya Sabha collects wastes about 10 tons per day. There are 6.5 tons organic and 3.5 tons non organic wastes. There is a compost site in Oliyadeniya Watte. Few of responders use composting method to dispose their waste. Polythene and plastics collection were identified as very high. Unpleasant environment was the major impact on solid waste problem in Narammala urban area. Huge amount of waste was issued by shops specially hotels. Perception of people was in moderate level considered about service of Pradeshiya Sabha. Many people suggested that the most suitable method for waste management is composting.

Conclusion and Recommendations

These are some of recommendations for solid waste problem in Narammala urban area. Launch awareness programmes in pre-schools, primary and secondary schools in Narammala urban area. Introducing separate colour code dustbin system. Adopting Polluter Pay Principle/ pay fine from polluter. Organizing 'green shop competition' annually and giving awards and prizes for the

winners. Implementing awareness programmes for shop owners. Creating a programme supporting of Pradeshiya Sabha. Ex; every shop owner should pay 50Rs per month and take environmental

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friendly waste disposal bags and put their waste separate into them and handover to the Pradeshiya Sabha again. Through this process Pradeshiya Sabha can establish Green Fund and this can be used for awareness programmes in schools and public. Creating awareness programmes for changing the attitudes of people.

Key words: Composting, polluter pay principal, awareness,

References

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