

BMC to reorganise segregation of waste with 38 more centres

OPTIMIZATION Civic body wants to be less dependent on nonperforming contractors

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MUMBAI: You may soon run out of excuses that keep you from segregating your waste. To give a new lease of life to waste segregation in the city, the civic body has decided to shake off its dependence on contractors and build about two dedicated dry waste centres in each of the 24 wards where waste can be segregated.

Currently, there are only 12 dry waste centres in the city which are not enough for organisations, appointed with the task of segregating waste, to go about the work in full measure. To make the task easier, the civic body plans to start 50 such centres in a year's time.

According to the civic body, it has been mooting the idea of allowing private, co-operative organisations to collect dry waste from societies and households and transport them to these centres. These centres will allow these organisations to segregate garbage into different categories and trade the relevant waste with recyclers.

"The inadequacy of these centres becomes an impediment to segregation. Hence, we are now planning to have a total of 50 such centres (including the current 12)," said deputy municipal commissioner Prakash Patil, in-charge of the city's solid waste management.



SEPARATING WASTE EVERY MUMBAITE'S DUTY

More waste generated means that contractors, who are in charge of collection, have to make more trips and thus, get paid even more

A higher quantity of waste also means that contractors, who control the city's three dumping grounds, get more waste and thus more money, as their payment is computed on the basis of the tonnes of garbage that they receive

Here's how not segregating your waste helps contractors fill their pockets



Civic officials, who act in collusion with these two lobbies, also stand to gain when more waste is generated.

Most civic conservancy staff, after collecting your waste, segregate it but set aside the kind of waste that fetches a good price. They sell this separately to pocket the money for themselves





Patil added that the process of identifying the 38 plots has already been initialized. Sources said that enhanced segregation would serve a dual purpose. "We will also be able to reduce our dependence on the three dumping ground contractors. That will help us, since we have been mulling over taking action against the three for non-performance," said

a senior civic official. For this plan to be successful, the citizen will also have to play a stellar role. In its scheme of things, the BMC wants to supply separate dry and wet waste containers to each society or clusters of houses. Only this will make it possible for the BMC to transport and sort out dry waste, said an official.

