

Interactive Meeting

Solid Waste Management: The Way Forward

Indian Merchants' Chamber had organised an Interactive Meeting with Ms. Almitra Patel, Member, Supreme Court Committee on Solid Waste Management. The presentation made by her is reproduced here.

1999 Report to S.Ct: Guiding Principles

"Clean Up and Flourish or Pile Up and Perish"

"A city is only as clean as its dirtiest areas"

"The best way to keep streets clean is not to dirty them in the first place. Aim for cities without street bins."

Waste Minimisation is vital.

Policy in a Nutshell

Keep "Wet" & "Dry" waste separately

Doorstep collection of "wet" waste, to *Compost all bio-degradables.*

Leave Recyclables to the informal sector

Land-fill only compost rejects & inerts

No Waste-to-Energy until fully proven!

More Guidelines

Handle waste once only
(Collect in mobile bins or tipper vehicle)

Separate collection of inerts
(Road dust, drain silt, debris, malba)

No Burning of Waste or Leaves

No Pesticide on Wastes

Bio-Med Waste: follow its Rules

Norms for City Managers

Remove all waste-collection points
(Retain only hand-litter bins)

All Hawkers to use mobile dustbins
(Evening collection – points for wastes)

80% on-road efficiency of vehicles

365-day city cleaning by Beat System:

Hi-density	Medium-density	Low-density (area)
*200-350m	400-600m	650-750m

* Road length per sweeper

How it Began

'94 : Surat Plague – A Wake-Up Call

'94 : 1st Clean India Campaign by
Capt. J. S. Velu and me :
30 cities in 30 days via Surat

'95 : 2nd Clean India Campaign,
60 new cities:
OPEN DUMPING OUTSIDE EVERY CITY

'96 : PIL No. 888/96 against all States and UTs for
Hygienic Waste Management

'99 : Supreme Court Committee Report

Policy Recommendations

Charge for collecting Trades Wastes

Decentralise Authority+Responsibility

Induct Public Health Engineers for
collection + transport + disposal

Amend Contract Labour Act '70 to enable NGO
or private services in SWM

Safeguard supervisors against abuse of Atrocities Act
(action only thru Dept. Head)