

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

Municipal solid waste management (MSWM) is one of the major environmental problems of Indian cities. Improper management of municipal solid waste causes hazards to inhabitants. Various studies reveal that about 90% of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) is disposed of unscientifically in open dumps and landfills, creating problems to public health and the environment.

The present system of SWM in most of the urban areas is highly unsatisfactory due to limited finances, inadequate services and coupled with public opinion towards the same. The solid waste management is one of the essential services and it is an obligatory duty of municipal bodies to arrange for daily street cleaning, collection, transportation, and disposal of waste. Improper handling and disposal practices of solid wastes continue to be a serious problem. Indian cities generate on an average of 300-400 gm/capita/day of solid waste and of which only 60-80% of the waste is collected on daily basis and rest of the waste is left to decay on the streets, roads, drains etc, which attracts vectors and thereby transmitting the diseases.

The components of waste management include the entire life cycle starting with the generation of solid waste, collection and sorting, reuse and recycling, pre-treatment and ultimate disposal. Although waste collection and disposal are essential steps in this process, waste reduction and recycling/reuse are the key elements in the improvement of waste management strategies.

Now a day's solid waste process is a major problem or burning issue on public health and environment constraints with advent of Urbanization and Industrialization. Its importance is also increasing due to rapid growth of population, standard of living, industrialization and urbanization, etc. The solid waste produced in a community is processing and is a major problem, if it is not handled properly. Otherwise it causes nuisance and health hazards. As the population increases the problem of solid waste has been