

1. Municipal Solid waste management is one of the major problems faced today in India. Elaborate upon the reasons that have created such mounting challenges in India. Explain how the conceptualization of waste to energy can bring a ground-breaking change in the scenario? Analyze how traditional practices of rural India can be a way out to the problems?

Answer:

Solid waste is garbage consisting of daily use items like waste like biodegradable waste (food, paper) recyclable waste like (plastic, glass, bottles, etc) and other types of waste. India generates about 60 million tonnes of trash every year. Ten million tonnes of garbage is generated in just the metropolitan cities: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kolkata. Solid waste management is one of the most pertinent issues being faced by Indian cities.

Reasons:

- a) Absence of proper infrastructure of collection and disposal like dustbins, collection bins.
- b) The garbage is generally thrown in empty spaces and this can't be cleaned after efforts by workers.
- c) Absence of appropriate technologies.
- d) No segregation and recycling of the waste because of lack of knowledge.
- e) the landfills of most of these cities are already overflowing.
- f) Absence of culture of cleanliness which results into garbage not being carried to designated points.
- g) Waste collection is done in the morning only whereas generation is done during the whole day.

Waste to energy and how it can solve the problem of Solid Waste Management

Waste to energy is the generation of energy in the form of electricity or heat from non-recyclable and non-hazardous waste.

- a) The problem of landfills will be solved.
- b) This will lead to monetization of the solid waste so private sector participation can be elicited.
- c) The revenues generated can be used for better payment of staff and they can work for the whole day.
- d) This will solve the problem of waste being strewn on the street as proper chain will be established.

Traditional practices of rural India for solid waste management were suited to the local conditions and employed local resources. Like use of waste food for animals, or preparation of agriculture manure from it, and use of traditional and local material for construction, use the one that generate least environment footprint, can be emulated.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. Discuss why women continue to bear an uneven burden of the terminal methods of family planning in India. What can be done to address this unevenness?
(150 words)
2. Secularism in India is based on the idea of equal respect for all religions rather than strict separation of state and religion. Critically discuss.
(150 words)