

Q: What is Solid waste management and what are the characteristics of effective Solid waste management?

ANS: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

It is a controlled handling of waste from its generating point (collection) through the recovery process upto disposal.

There are three stages of Solid waste management.

1. Collection of waste.
2. Recovery process
3. Disposal of waste.

-> CHARACTERISTIC OF EFFECTIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

1. COLLECTION OF WASTE:

It is the most crucial stage. If it is not effective then the whole process will be ineffective.

The primary responsibility of solid waste management is of government.

It is government responsibility to established municipalities. Government should also give it to private companies.

If we make effective collection, then it has potential to reduce health cost, environment cost and many other costs.

→ PRE-REQUISITE OF EFFECTIVE COLLECTION STAGE :

- To make sure the availability of human resource as per need.
- Hiring of human resource should be made permanent. If not permanent then it should be for long term not 1 and 2 years.
- There is no social acceptance in this job.

2. RECOVERY PROCESS :

After the collection of waste then it will move to transfer station (centralized location preferable in the center of cities). It is not the permanent place. It is there for few hours. Transfer location need some human resources. In transfer location there is segregation of waste and after segregation sale the recycle items.

3- DISPOSAL STAGE :

There are various methods of disposal of waste. Some of them are.

- i - Open dumping
- ii - Composting
- iii - Incineration
- iv - Land filling.

i - OPEN DUMPING :

Open dumping is all about decomposition of waste in the ~~area~~ surrounding of cities. It is an unsustainable way to deal with solid waste. It must be discouraged.

ii - COMPOSTING :

Composting is controlled biological decomposition of waste (organic waste). As a result of this we get a product called compost (fertilizer).

iii - INCINERATION :

Incineration is burning of waste other than organic using incineration. example: Hospital waste etc.

iv - LAND FILLING METHOD :

Land filling method is all about underground burning of waste for this first we have to decide the land.