

**RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE GENERATION IN MANMUNAI
NORTH DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT AREA OF
BATTICALOA**

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BY

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ABSTRACT

Solid waste management (SWM) is a multidimensional challenge faced by urban authorities, especially in developing countries like Sri Lanka. An essential preliminary step in municipal solid waste management (MSWM) is the accurate determination of the quantities and composition of the wastes. Analysis of the quantity and composition of municipal solid waste (MSW) is fundamental for the planning of municipal waste management services. The household sector is one of the primary sources of solid wastes in Manmunai North D.S area of Batticaloa, accounting for almost 75% of all sectors. The aim of this study was to evaluate residential solid waste generation, its composition and methods of waste disposal adopted in Manmunai North D.S area of Batticaloa. This survey covered 50 houses with different socio- economic levels such as income level and family size. There were six components of solid waste were evaluated in this study namely, food waste, paper, polyethylene, plastic, glass and metal.

The study results show that the monthly waste generation per household was ranging from 10.75 to 89.15kg with an average of 38.66kg. Average waste generation per household and per capita waste generation were 1.29kg/day and 0.30kg/day respectively. The findings show that, approximately 26.85 tons of solid waste generated per day in residential area and household sector contributes more than 38.36% of the total waste generation. Average composition of the household waste measured (by weight) seems to be 87.95% food waste, 3.6% paper, 2.33% glass, 2.14% polyethylene, 2.12% metal and 1.86% plastics. Food waste was the predominant component in entire waste stream whereas compositions of other types of waste were low in residential area. The overall socio-economic condition of the

residential area is very much responsible for higher percentage of organic component.

The correlation study showed that, there is a significant positive correlation ($r = 0.476$, $p < 0.01$) between generation of residential solid waste and the family size. Similarly, non significant positive correlation ($r = 0.184$, $p > 0.05$) was found in between solid waste generation and monthly income of the households. Burning, municipal collection and family pit are the major disposal methods used in this study area and only small percentage of people (16%) converting biodegradable wastes into organic fertilizer/compost. This study adequately shows that more awareness has to be created among households for the active participation in solid waste management in order to protect the environment.

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