

ASSESSMENT OF PRESENT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND IMPACTS IN BATTICALOA MUNICIPALITY LIMITS

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The urban agglomerations of the developing countries have in the last two decades witnessed some unprecedented growth in their populations. Such growth has been accompanied by complex problems. The challenge of the clearing the city of solid waste is one of the greatest problems. The management of refuse involves the collection, transportation, treatment and finally disposing of solid wastes in hygienic and authentically acceptable manner at the lowest possible cost. The public sector agencies in developing countries as Sri Lanka, faces serious budgetary limitations in conducting proper solid waste management programmes.

This submission presents an assessment study conducted in Batticaloa Municipality limits. The main objective of this submission is to assess the amount of solid waste composition dumped in landfill per day and examine the current problems due to the landfill and built up a management plan for integrated solid waste management to the study area.

The landfill is found about 1.5Km away from heart of the town and 0.5Km form Batticaloa lagoon. The extent of the landfill is about 7acres, depth varies from 18 to 21feet and originated by illicit sand and gravel mining. Total accumulation of solid waste per day is 61 tons. But the Batticaloa Municipality collects only 36 tons per day due to inadequate assistance. The composition of the waste goes to the landfill mainly degradable organic waste which is about 74%. Potable water in the vicinity of landfill are examined and found as not to meet the drinking water quality standard regard with Nitrate, phosphate, and sulphate ions.