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A Study of Solid Waste Management in Nasik Kumbh Mela 2015

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ABSTRACT

Around 75 lakhs of worshippers assemble on the Godavari's backs to take part in the KumbhMela, the world's largest religious gathering. The management abilities of the devotees, not just from India but from all over the world, are put to the test. Aside from crowd control, the mela officials have been kept on their toes by the amounts of rubbish accumulated throughout the gathering.The forthcoming KumbhMela in Nashik 2015 is being planned with all aspects in mind to ensure a great celebration. For Nasik Municipal Corporation, waste or rubbish management planning is a critical element to consider. To prevent, monitor, and recycle solid waste, numerous methods and cutting-edge technology are employed. The solid waste material is a component that offers a great deal of utility and value for the user or consumer. At the global, regional, and local levels, waste is a big issue. Pollution of all critical components of the living environment, such as air, land, and water, results from improper garbage disposal. It also has to do with health and hygiene in the environment. At the KumbhMela, solid garbage was separated into categories such as organic matter, biodegradable waste, paper, plastics, and glass.

Keywords: Management, Kumbh, integrated solid waste, Bio-degradable, Non- degradable.

INTRODUCTION:

India, which is known for its festivals, generates significantly more solid waste than other countries during various religious festivals held throughout the year. For example, the KumbhMela is held every 12 years when the planets Sun, Moon, and Jupiter are in a particular alignment. The Kumbh has various mythology around it. Kumbh literally translates to "earthenware receptacle for storing water or other liquids." The most popular Kumbh festival used to be a gathering place for Vaidic scholars to debate religious laws and discourses, but now it is the sanctity of rivers like the Godavari and Hindus' innate faith that draws pilgrims to specific locations like Haridwar, Prayag at Allahabad, Ujjain, and Nasik to take a holy bath at a specific spot. Waste can be liquid or solid in most cases. Both of them have the potential to be dangerous. Organic, re-usable, and recyclable trash are all sorts of liquid and solid waste. In terms of the KumbhMela, Water waste falls into the liquid category. Non-biodegradable materials, polythene bags, newspapers, and other solid materials are examples. Hazardous or dangerous wastes are those that have the potential to harm people or the environment. Such waste could be combustible (easy to ignite), reactive (easy to burst), corrosive (easy to eat through metal), or toxic (easy to poison) (poisonous to human and animals). In many countries, involving the proper authority to supervise the disposal of such hazardous waste is required by law.

Organic waste

water (Liquid) waste

Organic waste can include food waste, fruit and vegetable peels, and floral clippings, among other things.

There is no solid waste management system in most parts of India. Much of the waste is made of non-biodegradable materials, such as polythene or other non-biodegradable polymers, and is thus left to persist indefinitely in the environment, slowly leeching its hazardous elements into the soil and poisoning the groundwater. Animals frequently come along to sift through the rubbish in quest of food, and they frequently die as a result of consuming hazardous items like plastic and polythenes. This solid waste is either swept into nearby water bodies, such as the Godavari and its tributaries, by people or by nature. Large amounts of biodegradable garbage in the water require a lot of oxygen to degrade, causing disease and death in fish and other aquatic organisms. Non-biodegradable materials float through rivers, obstructing the free flow of water and slowly leaching their toxic compounds into the water. Aquatic species frequently eat these items by accident and perish as a result.

DISCUSSION:

During the KumbhaMela at Trimbakeshwar and Nasik in Maharashtra in 2003-2004, there will be very little floating population more than 50 lacks during each ShahiSnan. Taking a bath during the ShahiSnan will undoubtedly pollute the Godavari at Nasik and Trimbak, as well as result in the development of solid waste, plastic, paper, and bio-medical waste. In addition to the aforementioned, there will be vehicular pollution, noise pollution, and odour/smell pollution, for which it is believed that, in addition to water and air quality monitoring, an Environmental Awareness Program should be implemented. Students and citizens are educated, and conversations and publicity are spread through newspapers, local channels, television, and Akashwani through various activities.

The following are some of the activities that we participated in during the 2015 KumbhMela:

1. To eliminate water contamination, several disinfection technologies, such as extensive cholorination, have been used in bathing water bodies. However, in fast-moving water bodies, residual chlorine is removed from the water during its rapid movement. Massive chlorination, on the other hand, could be harmful to aquatic life in confined water bodies. Chemical disinfectants should therefore be strictly prohibited in and around limited water bodies such as Kushawarta.
2. Instead of pilgrims receiving free admission to Kushawarta, they may be charged a fee and given a limited amount of time to perform the holy bath. This will prevent the mob from congregating within the Kushawarta. In comparison to Kushawarta, the number of bathers in Sannihit tank may be limited due to its entire capacity.
3. The most critical step in conserving natural resources, energy, and green space, as well as decreasing pollution, is to reduce what we make, buy, and use. Many items end up in the trash that didn't need to be there to begin with.
4. Natural resources are used to make the majority of the materials. Natural resources include forests, minerals, oil, gas, and metals, all of which are derived from nature. Our waste is actually a resource that is occasionally thrown away after a single use. Reusing and then recycling these products reduces resource consumption, keeps valuable materials out of landfills, and helps to avoid pollution. Fewer materials are wasted and non-renewable resources are conserved when we reuse items.
5. Organic items (food scraps, coffee grounds, egg shells, yard debris, etc.) account for around 30% of landfill waste. Rather than squandering this great resource by throwing it away, it can be composted. It's a biological process that turns organic waste into a useful resource: nutrient-rich soil conditioner for farms, parks, and gardens.

CONCLUSION:

Solutions:

• Collecting and disposing of solid waste at the point of generation.
• As much as possible, reducing and recycling solid waste.
• Investigating new and inventive ways to use solid waste as a source of economic growth.
• Preventing dangerous, non-biodegradable products from entering the river, such as plastics and polythene; and providing eco-friendly packaging alternatives.

Actions:

• Restoring the pristine environment of the Godavari and its tributaries by reducing current pollution and efficiently preventing future pollution through Solid Waste Management.
• In 2015, the first-ever eco-friendly Green KumbhMela will be held, with no solid trash entering the Godavari or polluting the ecosystem.
• Removing wandering cows from roadways and providing care and shelter for them so that they are not forced to live on the streets and eat plastic and other rubbish.
• Educating the public about the importance of environmental protection and encouraging people to use eco-friendly alternatives such as cloth and jute bags instead of damaging materials like plastic and polythene to reduce waste.

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