

Kohima City Profile on Sanitation (Solid Waste Management)

Introduction:

Kohima, which is one of the oldest townships and also the Capital City of Nagaland, came into being more than 130 years back, when its problems were minimal with each citizen & family fend for themselves in most aspects. But as it gradually grew into a township the impending need for collective measures became greater day by day and thus this Civic Body was formed in 1957, which was christened as Kohima Town Committee (KTC) but with the passage of time like other towns & cities, when its size and population fast increases giving rise to mounting problems and demands, higher form of governance became mandatory. In view of this and considering the over-all fast urbanization in Nagaland the government of Nagaland enacted the Nagaland Municipal Act 2001 and under which provision the erstwhile KTC was upgraded to Municipal Council in 2004.

KMC has a total area of nearly 11sq.km which accounts for just over 17% of the total planning area of greater Kohima with a population of 98,000 as per 2011 census. But population trend has suggested that the growth of population has been estimated at 1.5 lacs approximately at present with the increasing of floating population rapidly for its Administrative important, Trade and Commerce from neighboring Towns and Villages. The increasing pressure of Populations leading to haphazard growth of unplanned clusters of colonies creating havoc specially in Sewage and Sanitation maintenance thereby Solid Waste generation is directly related to population density.

Solid Waste management is a “**Global Menace**” and it is one of the most essential services for maintaining the quality of life of the citizens of the urban areas and for ensuring better Health and Sanitation in regard to this global issue, Kohima Municipal Council has taken up various Pilot Projects with State Government & Central for improvement of over all Sanitation scenario in the Capital City.

The Nagaland Municipal Act 2001 has adequately elaborated the roles and responsibilities of Municipal at various levels for efficient functioning for SWM in Kohima area. But due to lack of adequate capacity building and human resource development there is hardly any sign of Municipal Act being followed in its true sense in dealing with the problems of SWM in Kohima City, and hence the problem of SWM has aggravated with the rapid pace of urbanization, the situation is becoming more and more critical day by day. Infrastructure development is also not in position to keep pace with population growth owing to poor **Financial Health Management** and **Financial Resources** of KMC. The SWM has to be handled scientifically and economically by involving active Public participation and Private sector wherever necessary and possible. Waste generation is not rare in urban

areas, or any part of the world. The only difference is the management of waste.

Solid waste management problem is growing day by day, and an effective, efficient and sustainable waste management is still non-existent in Kohima. As the town grows and produces more waste, deciding where all the waste will go becomes a public health priority. A policy framework is, therefore, necessary to guide and support the ULBs in the State for managing of Solid Waste at par with other Municipal Cooperation's.

Hence, there is a need to strengthen the KMC in order to manage the SWM in particular and others delegation of Powers to KMC as per the Municipal Act 2001 by the State Government for efficient and effective management in all fronts .

As of now , KMC is only looking after SWM within its jurisdiction apart from other important Sanitation Components like maintenance of **Drains, Sewerage, Roads, Water supply and Electricity** etc which are still under State Govt. agencies. The KMC is determined to improve and modernized SWM activities in its jurisdiction on priority and also in adjoining areas of Greater Kohima Plan Area (GKPA) for effectiveness of this service and maximizing efficiency, it is necessary to tackle this problem systematically by examining into all aspects of SWM and devise cost effective system which may ensure adequate level of SWM services to all class of the society in regard to collection, transportation and safe disposal of waste in an environmentally acceptable as per the directives of Supreme Court recommendations as well as Municipal (Management and Handling)Rules ,2000.

Characteristic & Sources of Waste:

Kohima City comprises of 19 wards, which generates about 60- 70 metric tons of Solid Waste per day. The main sources of Municipal Solid Waste are generated from domestics, Commercial, Hotels and Restaurants and Markets, Streets sweeping, Hospitals and Nursing homes, drain cleanings, constructions and debris waste etc. In 200, Nagaland Pollution Control Board (NPCB) has carried out a survey on Solid Waste of Kohima, where it was found that domestic waste generates most of the Solid Waste, accounting for 31.49%, followed by commercial & Institutional waste 27.41% and 23.37% respectively. It has also been observed that the difference in quantity & quality of waste is due to a number of factors, and one such factor being the economics.

Therefore “ as economic prosperity increases ,the amount of waste increases in weight & volume”, with larger part consisting of luxury waste such as paper, plastic, metal & glasses etc. Thus ,it may be noted that the higher group generates more waste, as they are a consumerist lot while those from the poorer section of the Society generate less waste as they reuse a lot of things.

Collection:

The Solid Waste generated in the KMC area is very heterogeneous in nature and its composition varies with place & time.. As per a study carried out by NPCB the composition and characteristic of solid waste in Kohima City is found to be 42% of combustible materials and 58% of non combustible .The primary collection of solid waste is carried out by the KMC through daily streets sweeping and from storage bins.

Disposal:

At present only 50-60 % of the waste is collected from the sources to the disposal site daily, which is about 8 Kms away from the city on NH-39.Current system of disposal is not in compliance with the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2000, since KMC does not have a proper & scientific system of Solid Waste Management.

Man power and Machineries:

KMC is having about 121 sanitary workers of which 35 labours are engaged in disposal and 70 for streets sweeping with 11 drivers. Supervised by 3 Sanitation Inspectors, 2 Assistant Inspectors and 3 Sardars

In regard to Machineries, KMC has 11 collection trucks of which 3 is under major repair and 2 off-road.

Financial Aspect:

As of now KMC is spending 50%-60% of its revenue towards Sanitation, such as salary, repair & replacement of Vehicles, POL, Equipments etc.

As per report of United Nation researched, which have declare 2008 as year of Sanitation, it was found that “Investing in Sanitation generates massive returns on health, the Environment and the Economic. In fact, the overwhelming evidence is that there is no single development policy intervention that brings greater public health returns than investment in basic Sanitation and hygiene practices. But due to paucity of fund KMC is failing in many areas from reaching its target of achieving sustainable Sanitation system in our City.

Lastly, Kohima Municipal Council would like to appeal to all the citizens of Kohima to give a helping hand to manage this “Global Menace” for a better place to live in. as its impact has been growing on the environment of localities. Habits and attitudes of inhabitants affect waste management activities, thus people’s co-operation is the vital aspect in Solid Waste Management.

