
The Importance of Waste Management in the Sustainable Development Goals: The Indian Scenario

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Preface

The word waste does not inspire comfortable feeling or generate any delightful signal to our mind. Rather, it raises a very obnoxious feeling of dirt and related discomforts. The human society has, however, been living with waste ever since human settlement took its permanent shape. At its earliest beginning, wastes were not even a recognizable object as those were absorbed in the environment; but as the society leapfrogged ahead accompanied with its ever-growing number of population, wastes begin to show its presence. Hitherto negligent, non-recognizable and unimportant objects began to register its huge presence and become noticeable. The small particles of bygone years are now a formidable visible entity with its furious forms depending on its location and composition with inherent power of annoying, disturbing and striking the peaceful mind of the society. They are now a formidable/striking force and rapidly growing entity to the detriment of human development. Wastes now stand as a menace and a strong force against future development. It is time to segregate the waste fully, and weaken it by appropriate disposal and treatment. The Importance of Waste Management in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Indian Scenario intends to probe how waste stands as roadblock to the flagship global agenda of sustainable development and how it needs to be comprehensively addressed and overcome. In that perspective, the book has intended to capture linkages of waste with sustainable development goals in general and identified sustainable development goals in particular. The programme interventions of the country government, like India, have also been captured.

This exercise is a joint study of Dr. Maniparna SyamRoy and myself. She has contributed immensely in the structural design; the conceptual framework and issues related to waste and sustainable development goals.

In undertaking this Study, I have made extensive use of materials, available on public domain, from the websites of various institutions on waste, its classifications and management. I have also used websites of the UN Sustainable Development Summit, Sustainable Development Knowledge platform, and websites of multiple partners working on Waste and Sustainable development goals including the UNDP, the UNEP, FAO, the World Bank and of numerous others for making liberal use of relevant materials to prepare the book. I have also used substantive materials of the NITI Aayog and related publications from the

websites of different Ministries, Government of India, and of numerous others for making liberal use of relevant materials to prepare the book.

I express my thanks and gratitude to Shri Chanchal Mukherjee and Shri Dipanjan Mukherjee, New Delhi Publishers for the support for its publication along with the assistance from the co-author to complete the study.

11.10.2025 Saltlake.

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To Our Affectionate Manichandrima

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