

# **Assessment of Status and Strategies of Municipal Solid Waste Management in the Millennium City, Cuttack (Orissa, India)**

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## **Abstract**

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) has become a matter of concern in the contemporary times particularly in the urban environments of developing countries. Modernization and changing life style are contributing to this issue to a large extent. Status and present practices of MSW management in the Millennium City of Cuttack, one of the commercial hubs of Orissa (India), are assessed in order to formulate better strategies so that effective MSW management can be accomplished. Cuttack city established in 989 by the Keshari dynasty, is one of the ancient Indian cities and known as the “Millennium city”. It was the first capital of Orissa until the construction of the new state capital city at Bhubaneswar in 1950. The city of Cuttack generates 261 T of MSW per day, which comprises of 128 T of silt, debris and inert material and 133 T of organic and recyclable wastes. Characterization of representative samples of MSW collected randomly from the main dumping site of the city at Chakradharpur and sorted into different categories have shown that, the organic waste particularly the vegetable wastes comprise about 50% and plastic wastes constitute 29% and the rest consist of construction wastes, metal scraps, broken glass etc. The municipal corporation of Cuttack has plans to adopt different methods of MSW management such as door-to-door collection with source segregation of the wastes, composting of the organic component of the waste as per the MSW management rules 2000 of Govt. of India, and suitable disposing of the non-biodegradable waste through recycling. However, the assessment of the existing MSW management practices reveals certain drawbacks. In view of this, community awareness programmes educating people regarding the problems associated with improper management of MSW as along with adopting the proper waste disposal practices are vital.

**Keywords:** Municipal solid waste, Characterization, Disposal, Composting, awareness, Community based management