

Chapter-I
Introduction and
Research Methodology

Chapter - I

INTRODUCTION AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.1 Introduction

Environment has importance not less than blood in the human body in particular, and bodies of all living things in general. It is therefore, protection, preservation of the environment and control of its pollution is of vital importance. The pollution of the environment takes forms such as air pollution, noise pollution, soil pollution, and waste generation as well. This demands to control environmental pollution of different types. Waste management has a special importance on various grounds. It enables to control environmental pollution on the one hand, and on the other, and more importantly that facilitates preservation, conservation of natural resources and their recycling as well. Waste can be solid waste in the form of garbage, and liquid waste in the form of domestic and business waste water. The management of the waste also contributes to the control of the environmental pollution as well as environmental balance. In this overall backdrop, it is very much essential to examine waste management, its nature, extent and efficiency as well. India as well as Maharashtra is dominated by the rural area. The same is the case of districts in the state of Maharashtra. It is therefore of greater importance to study the waste management practices in rural areas. This can also be justified on the ground that, rural people are not much acquainted with the environmental knowledge of the waste management also. Sangli is a famous district in the state of Maharashtra and Western Maharashtra on various grounds. It is against this overall background, the present research study intends to study the waste management practices in the rural Sangli district of Maharashtra for the latest period from 2006-07 to 2012-13.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

It is fact that rural area in the state like Maharashtra is not much acquainted with the knowledge of the environment in general and the problem like waste management in particular. It is clearly and adequately being observed

in the rural areas of Sangli District in Maharashtra. The rural local bodies in the district are not spending much on the management of the waste; both the solid as well as liquid. The participation of the people is not much satisfactory. There is absence of adequate availability of urinal, latrine, drainage and gutter facilities in all the 10 villages of Sangli District. They are also not collecting all the solid waste being generated and disposing of as well. It is a fact that not much efforts are being made to recycle both the solid as well as liquid waste. Nelkaranji is a village in Atpadi Teshil of Sangli District. In 2007- 08 in Nelkaranji village, recycling of the solid waste was not being undertaken. There were 200 households, who did not have latrine facilities in the same village. Jarandi is a village in Tasgaon Teshil of Sangli District.

In 2011, in this village out of 564 households, 460 had toilet facility. Only 40 households had biogas generation plants from toilet waste. In this village, only 10 families out of 460 had individual dustbins and solid waste is not being classified and segregated. This shows the number of problems and lacunas in the management of both the solid as well as liquid waste in the rural area of Sangli District. Hence, it is very much necessary to study the problem of waste management in rural Sangli District of the state of Maharashtra. It is therefore present research topic has been chosen and taken up.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The important objectives of the present research study are as follows:

1. To study the problem of waste management in theoretical perspective.
2. To study a profile of villages in Sangli District selected for the study.
3. To examine the nature and extent of solid waste management in the rural Sangli District.
4. To assess the waste water management practices in rural areas of Sangli District.
5. To identify the problems in the management of waste in the area under study and suggest measures on the some.

1.4 Hypothesis of the Study

The hypotheses of the present research study are as follows:

1. All the solid waste is not being collected and disposed of in the rural Sangli District.
2. Rural area of Sangli District is not fully equipped with the drainage and gutter facility necessary for waste water management.

1.5 Research Methodology

The present research study examines the waste management practices in the rural Sangli District of Maharashtra for the latest period from 2006-07 to 2012-13. The study assesses both the solid waste as well as waste water management being carried out by the selected villages from the Sangli district. The selection of the villages is a purposive sample of one village each from all 10 tehsils comprising of in all 10 villages from Sangli District which represents rural Sangli district of the state of Maharashtra. The study solely relies on the secondary data, but with discussions and interviews of the people the necessary primary data is also collected. The secondary data is collected from budgets, reports and official records of the villages selected for the study. This data is further processed and analyzed by the statistical tools like Compound Growth Rate (CGR), Ratio analysis, Coefficient of Variation (CV). On the basis of the results from the analysis of the data the conclusions have been drawn and suggestions are given to deal with the problems relating to waste management in the rural area of the Sangli District in Maharashtra for the period 2006-07 to 2012-13.

1.6 Chapter Scheme

The chapter scheme of the present research study is as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction and Research Methodology

Chapter II: Review of Research Studies

Chapter III: Waste Management in Theoretical Perspective

Chapter IV: A Profile of Selected Villages from Sangli District

Chapter V: Waste Management in Rural Sangli District

Chapter VI: Conclusions and Suggestions

1.7 Significance of the Study

The significance of the present research study is as follows:

1. The present study enables to know the theoretical issues of waste management.
2. The study equips us with the state of solid and liquid waste management in rural Sangli district.
3. This study brings out the problems of waste management in the area under study.
4. The study comes out with the suggestions to deal with the problems in waste management.
5. The study is of greater use in formulating a waste management policy for the state as well as local governments in the state of Maharashtra.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

The noteworthy limitations of the present research study are as follows:

1. The present study covers the period only from 2006-07 to 2012-13, and neglects all other.
2. The study heavily relies on the secondary data, and neglects the importance of primary data.

1.9 Concluding Remarks

As India in general, and Maharashtra in particular is dominated by rural area. It is therefore it is of vital importance to study waste management practices in rural areas, in which people are not much acquainted with environmental education, knowledge and awareness. Likewise, they also do not know much about waste management. In this back drop, the present study is taken up and it has endeavored to examine the waste management practices in the selected villages from Sangli district. There is vast scope to this research topic. Thus there is wide scope for further research and in future also the number of studies can be taken up.