

FOREWORD



Dr. D. B. Boralkar
Member Secretary

Management of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) is one of the most basic obligatory functions of the Urban Local Bodies. In most of the cities, however, the standard of waste management needs improvement. The environmental and health hazards caused by the unsanitary conditions in the cities were epitomised by the episode of plague in Surat in 1994. That triggered public interest litigation in the Supreme Court of India. Based on the recommendations of the Committee set up by the apex court in that PIL, the Government of India has framed the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2000 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The rules cover the entire gamut of activities of waste management and cast a responsibility upon the State Government and the Urban Local Bodies to upgrade the solid waste management systems in compliance with these rules by December 2003.

It is imperative to undertake giant steps in the direction of MSW Management to ensure a robust civic life for all. Maharashtra, being the most progressive state in terms of industrial activity, is yet to evolve a firm approach to tackle this problem. After taking due cognizance of the impending problem of the MSW Management in Maharashtra, we decided to take certain measures to complement the efforts undertaken by other parastatal bodies like All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG).

MPCB has identified the need to have a common approach to MSW Management across the state. There is need to optimally utilize scarce resources that are available with ULBs and channelise the same for constructively tackling the problem of MSW Management.

To streamline the MSW management activities, MPCB has already taken the first step. MPCB has decided to evolve a model contractual framework by leveraging upon the best practices in the sector. This was undertaken specifically to plug the expertise shortfall at the grass root ULB levels due to which implementation of initiatives was being conceived to be extremely difficult.

M/s. CRISIL Infrastructure Advisory Services were awarded the assignment to develop model tender documents that can be readily utilized by the ULBs to cater to their respective specific needs.

M/s. CRISIL were advised that, being the only kind of such initiative, it would have to incorporate the ground level realities and would have to cater to the practicality of the situations in terms of expertise availability, resource scarcity and lack of awareness.

After due consultations with various ULBs, Dr. A.K. Jain, Sr. Adviser (MSW), AILSG and through valuable guidance from the good offices of Shri Sunil Soni, Director of Municipal Administration, the report has taken shape.

I am glad to present the documents and trust that they will be helpful in effective and efficient Solid Waste Management.

Dr. D.B. Boralkar

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