Post Monsoon Study of Characteristics of Solid Waste as per Depth at Phursungi Dumping Yard in Pune Region

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Abstract: The by-product of drastic development and transformation in behaviour of human action is creating a corpus of solid waste which is creating unease position in world and in India. Per capita resource consumption in urban areas of India is more related to rural area of India which is also producing the waste in the same proportion. In India, Pune is a cosmopolitan city in Maharashtra state showing typical urban population which produces about 1500 – 1600 MT of solid waste per day. Pune Municipal Corporation disposes the municipal solid waste in Phursungi dumping yard depot. The residents of Phursungi and Urli villages, who have been agitating for the closure of garbage depot, are dissatisfied. It has been more than a decade since they began agitating, but no concrete action has been taken so far. On the contrary, the stink and pollutants emitting from the depot have left them more inclined to health issues and to increase the efficiency of dumping yard it is very important to understand the characteristics of solid waste. Previously the characteristics of solid waste of Pune have been studied but in this paper it has been studied as respect to the horizontal as well as vertical plane up to the depth of 6 feet by using the designed sampler.

Keywords: Phursungi dumping yard, Solid waste management, Characteristics, Moisture Content, Undisturbed density, Temperature

1. Introduction

Indian economic advancement of society is leading to more complex solid waste because of use of plastic, synthetics and more use of packaging material. Advancement in technologies and the rise in per capita waste produce exotic waste which is making heaps of garbage is challenging situation for engineers to find a better solid waste disposal solution and for that study of characteristics of solid waste is essential. [¹]

Yearly solid waste generated by around 300 million people living in rural part of India sums up to 38 million tons. India produce daily about 1,00,000 MT of Municipal solid waste, these numbers tend to increase drastically with increasing population, urbanization and industrialization. Maximum expenditure by Local bodies of urban areas is involved for street sweeping of waste collection and transportation. And tiny amount, around 5% is spent for final disposal which is insufficient and main cause of issues like odour and health related complications. [²]

Pune city is well-known on the world map because of its scenic beauty and rich natural resources as well as its educational institutions. “Phursungi” area is one of the most beautiful areas on Pune’s periphery in which hundred tons of solid waste is discarded every day. All of this has accumulated in the last one decade creating huge amount of garbage. The city generates about 1500 to 1600 MT of waste per day, which is significant amount and it is going to increase with the population in the upcoming years so it is prerequisite of time for ground-breaking way of municipal solid waste disposal practice and as every city waste is distinctive in its own way there is always a need of study of characteristics of solid waste because there is no ‘one size fits all’ rather it is ‘continues learning and improving’ the system [³][⁴]

Figure 1 (clockwise direction): a) Designed Sampler of 6 feetb) Site Photograph while taking sample c) bottom of sampler
2. Literature Review

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<td>2012</td>
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<td>Revised city development plan for Pune - 2041, Maharashtra, under JNNURM (Report by PMC)</td>
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3. Methodology

The Primary data is obtained from the site Phursungi dumping yard and Pune Municipal Corporation and correlated with the present investigation. The research work includes the efforts for waste characterization at various depths. Initially samples have been collected at various depths (0-2), (2-4), (4-6) feet with help of specially designed sampler (Cylindrical in shape) and the data analysis and reporting is done on the bases of data obtained by investigation.

4. Analysis of Solid Waste

The post monsoon analysis of solid waste samples have been collected in the month of June- July from various positions of Phursungi dumping yard at various depths as mentioned in methodology.

4.1 Composition of solid waste as per examination of samples

Sampling Details:

- Methodology of Sampling: Manual Sampling
- Quantity of sampling: 10 Numbers of samples
• Device used: Designed sampler, weighing machine
• Weight of each sample: 1000 grams

Analysis procedure:

➢ These samples are collected in polythene bags & transported to the laboratory for further analysis.
➢ In laboratory sorting of material, cleaning of contamination and air dried is performed. Durable items such as glass or plastic container can be washed prior to air drying and filled containers can be emptied of their contents.
➢ Further in the process waste is classified in 12 categories and then separating all materials as per categories & weight is measured of each category and recorded the same.

The composition of solid waste is the first step to understand the solid waste. To better understand the characteristics, composition is analysed at various depths as specified in methodology.

In depth up to 2 feet the primary finding of the sampling is that more than 45 % waste is organic in nature, the food scrap consists about 37 % and the yard trim is about 9 %. This high potential of biodegradable waste shows the potential for composting. The food scrap composition decreases drastically when the depth increases and reaches to the negligible at the depth of 6 feet.

The recyclable composition (include rubber, plastic, metals, glass, paper, etc.) consist more than 30 % at every depth which shows the need of segregation at source. Among the recyclable plastic waste contributes the highest as compared with other recyclable waste.

As per the examination of samples it has been observed that the dust has been increased drastically with respect to the depth which has been observed highest i.e, 32 % in the depth range (4 to 6) feet.

The observation shows that the composition changes significantly within the dumping yard from place to place as well as with depth. If the service level of segregation at source is increased from the current level it will definitely create an opportunity of composting as well as recycling waste and directly reduce the load on solid waste dumping yard. The detail readings of sample at Phursungi dumping yard are shown in pie chart.
4.2 Moisture content of solid waste as per examination of samples

Sampling Details

- Methodology: Random manual sampling with designed sampler.
- Quantity of sample: Minimum 3 samples or number required to get essential amount of material (100 grams) of each constituent.
- Device used: Designed sampler, weighing machine, oven, dedicator.

Analysis procedure:

- Weigh the aluminium dish
- Fill the dish with solid waste sample & weight the same.
- Dry solid waste and dish in an oven for at least 24 hours at 77 degree Celsius
- Remove the dish from oven and allow it for cool in a dedicator.
- Record the weight of dry solid waste + dish.
- Calculate the moisture content (M) using following equation.

\[
M = \frac{(W - D) \times 100}{W}
\]

- W ----- Wet weight
- D ----- Dry weight

At depth (0-2) feet the primary verdict of the sampling is that food scrap consist the highest moisture content more than 45% and the yard trim consist more than 15 %, this biodegradable waste responsible for high percentage of moisture content in solid waste and making the solid waste difficult for incineration process as it requires more fuel and energy to evaporate the moisture and this high moisture content of biodegradable waste show the need and necessity for composting of biodegradable waste. The moisture content of food scrap and yard trim is decreasing considerably with depth. When depth is increasing from (2-4) feet to depth (4-6) feet the moisture content is negligible which shows the swift decomposition of food scrap.

The moisture content of composition include (rubber, leather, plastic, paper, glass, textile, paper) decreases with increase in the depth. Among recyclable waste textile has the highest moisture content that is 10 %. The moisture content of solid waste of recyclable composition shows the great need of segregation at source which will decrease the load on dumping yard.

The overall observation shows that moisture content of solid waste is varying a lot within the dumping yard from place to place and even with the depth.

If the service level of recovering municipal solid waste is increased from current level then there will be more opportunities for incineration and composting. The moisture content of various constituents of solid waste at Phursungi dumping yard are shown in graphical form below

![Chart showing waste constituents at depth (0-2) feet](image)

![Chart showing waste constituents at depth (2-4) feet](image)

![Chart showing waste constituents at depth (4-6) feet](image)

4.3 Undisturbed Density of Solid waste as per examination of samples

Sampling Details

- Methodology: Random manual sampling with designed sampler.
- Device used: Designed sampler, weighing machine.
Number of samples: 10 Numbers

Analysis procedure:

- The weight of collected samples of solid waste is measured and noted down.
- The volume of sample can be measured by the formula for volume of cylinder \( \frac{\pi d^2}{4} \times h \)
- Where ‘d’ is diameter of designed sampler and ‘h’ is height of sample. In our case d = 3 inch i.e. 0.076 m & h = 2 feet i.e. 0.609 m.
- The undisturbed bulk density can be calculated by using the below formula

\[
\text{Mass of undisturbed solid waste (in sampler device)} = \frac{\text{Undisturbed Density}}{\text{Volume of sampler (} \frac{\pi d^2}{4} \times h \text{)}}
\]

The primary outcome of examination of sampling is the undisturbed density is increasing with the increase in depth. At depth of 0-2 feet density varies 298 Kg/m\(^3\) to 398 Kg/m\(^3\) which give the average density of sample about 360 Kg/m\(^3\). At depth of 2-4 feet density varies 351 Kg/m\(^3\) to 489 Kg/m\(^3\) which give the average density of sample about 405 Kg/m\(^3\). At depth of 4-6 feet density varies 403 Kg/m\(^3\) to 481 Kg/m\(^3\) which give the average density of sample about 435 Kg/m\(^3\). The observations shows that the value of each samples are varying in horizontal plane as well as vertical plane which indicate anisotropic nature of solid waste at Phursungi dumping yard.

The detail reading of moisture content of various constituents in solid waste are represented in graphical form below.

4.4 Temperature of Solid waste as per examination of samples

Sampling Details

- Methodology: Random manual sampling with designed sampler and measuring the temperature of the same.
- Device used: Designed sampler, thermometer.
- Number of samples: 10 Numbers

Analysis procedure:

The temperature of collected samples of solid waste is measured with the help of thermometer and noted down. The primary outcome of study of sampling is the temperature is slightly decreased with increase in depth. There is a difference of 0.5 °C increase while going to the depth up to 6 feet. At depth of 0-2 feet the temperature
varies from 23.9 °C to 24.1 °C which gives the average temperature about 24 °C, the maximum temperature difference in the reading of sample is 0.20 °C. At depth of 2-4 feet the temperature varies from 24.3 °C to 24.7 °C which gives the average temperature about 24.5 °C, the maximum temperature difference in the reading of sample is 0.40 °C. At depth of 4-6 feet the temperature varies from 24.2 °C to 24.7 °C which gives the average temperature about 24.5 °C, the maximum temperature difference in the reading of sample is 0.30 °C.

The temperature of various samples of solid waste at Phursungi dumping yard at various depth levels are represented in graphical form below for appropriately understanding of variation of temperature in horizontal plane as well as with depth.

![Figure 11: Chart showing waste constituents at depth (0-2) feet.](image1)

![Figure No 12: Chart showing waste constituents at depth (2-4) feet.](image2)

![Figure No 13: Chart showing waste constituents at depth (4-6) feet](image3)

5. Conclusion

For appropriate solid waste management the understanding of characteristics of solid waste plays very important role as there is no ‘one size fits all’ and there is always a scope for improvement and learning. The waste generated from the city has particular character; the waste from the city is besides organic one but it has contained some amount of recyclable inorganic part also. As per the keen examination of all samples, it has been observed that the values of composition are different in all the randomly selected places. Even though the change in the content of solid waste with respect to various depths gives a diverse value. The observation regarding moisture content can be clearly seen is decreasing with respect to depth. On the other hand the bulk density of solid waste is increasing with respect to depth. The temperature at the depth of 6 feet as compared to top surface (exposed surface) is less by 0.5 °C. It can be clearly seen that the variation in horizontal as well as vertical plane readings represent the anisotropy of municipal solid waste need to treat as highly anisotropic material.

Reference

[4] Biomethanation from Municipal Solid Waste by Mahesh Pathak, Municipal Commissioner, PMC, Published in Indian council of research on international economic relation, Kerala Workshop on Preparing for the Challenges of Urbanisation in India
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[8] Book on household hazardous waste collection facility by Courtesy William A. Worrell, chapter 2: Municipal solid waste characteristics and quantities