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Assessing the Generation, Collection and Recycling Practices of Electronic-Waste (E-Waste) from Patna, India (Dirtiest State Capital in the country)

S. Singh

Indian Institute of Technology, India

Patna, the capital city of Bihar, though boasts of rich cultural heritage, is unfortunately also known as the garbage city of the country. In this study, I have focused on E-Waste which is commercial as well as residential and is generated in all over the city. Patna is the largest consumers of electronic goods in the state as large corporate, business houses, IT companies and Malls are situated in the city. Rapid Industrial and economic growth in the city has triggered greater consumption and waste generation of Electronic Equipment, Emerging issue of E-waste in Patna demands its effective management strategy for the City. However, it cannot be achieved until assessment of e-waste quantification and disposal is carried out. The main objective of this study was to quantify the E-waste inventory and it's processing from Patna to evaluate its generation and recycling practices. E-Waste has been classified as Information technology and Telecommunication equipment category. The study reveals that Municipal Corporation has no record regarding how much E-waste the city generates. Data states that Bihar Government has specified 57 E-Waste collection points and 2 Warehouses in the city however no recycling centre is there. Patna sill doesn't have any mechanism to dispose electronic waste. During city visits, it has been observed the streets of city are strewn with garbage including E-Waste which has several environmental concerns. Findings of my study strongly recommend dire need for urgent and effective monitoring as well as control of e-waste management in Patna.

Keywords: E-Waste, Collection Points, Warehouse, Recycling Center

Biography:

S. Singh is a sophomore in the department of Civil Engineering. She has been working in the field of Environmental studies since my freshman. She has already undertaken a project at IIT Roorkee, India under Dr. Bhanu Prakash Vellanki on Ozonation of Humic and currently she is working on bio-electro-fenton using Microbial Fuel Cell under Dr. Hait (HoD, IIT Patna).