

## CHAPTER-7

### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

#### 7.1 Non-compliance of Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules

GOI, Ministry of Environment and Forests issued (September 2000) the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000<sup>37</sup> to regulate the management and handling of Municipal Solid Wastes (MSW), which were circulated to ULBs by State Government in May 2001. Every municipal authority was made responsible for the implementation of the provisions of these rules and for infrastructure development for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of MSW.

Review of records of JMC, MCJ and MCK revealed non-compliance of various provisions of these rules as mentioned below:

**(a) *Improper collection and non-segregation of MSW***

Though prescribed, no method of house to house collection of MSW was adopted (excepting 24 colonies covering one lakh population only out of Jaipur's 24 lakh residents), resulting in littering of MSW in open space/plots/road sides. In Kota house-to-house collection of wastes was being done only in 6 out of 60 wards.

**(b) *Collection/storage of MSW in open space***

Out of 3020 MSW collection centres, 2700 centres ( 89 per cent ) in Jaipur and 400 in Jodhpur were on open spaces due to shortage of community bins. Category-wise storage bins were also not placed on storage centres and there was acute shortage of easy-to-operate bins and vehicles of suitable design. Therefore, littering of MSW by stray animals, rag pickers and spreading of foul odour could not be prevented and overflow and multiple handling of MSW respectively could not be avoided. Thus, possibility of ill-effects on the health of human beings could not be ruled out.

**(c) *Improper and inadequate transportation of MSW***

In Jaipur, MSW from 24 wards was being transported by the vehicles of JMC and from remaining 46 wards by vehicles of private contractors.

It was observed that:

**(i)** Although JMC was insisting on vehicles carrying MSW to be covered for hired vehicles, for its own fleet the provision was not being followed.

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37. Published in the Gazette of India on 3 October 2000.

Hence, it could not prevent littering of MSW on roads from its own vehicles, spreading of foul odour in the squatter areas and its visibility to public/vectors.

(ii) Out of 1070 tonnes of MSW generated daily in Jaipur, about 900 tonnes only could be transported daily, leaving about 170 tonnes MSW at storage centers, thereby creating unhygienic conditions and spreading of foul odour.

***(d) Non-establishment of authorised landfill sites resulting in unauthorised dumping of MSW***

To prevent contamination of ground water, surface water and ambient air quality, disposal facilities including landfill sites conforming to the prescribed standards had to be identified and kept ready up to 31 December 2002 for future use.

Municipal authorities were also required to obtain an authorisation in prescribed format from Rajasthan Pollution Control Board (RPCB) which would ensure that pollutants at the sites remain within the permissible limit, for setting up of disposal facilities including landfill sites.

It was observed that:

(i) Authorisations from RPCB for existing dumping sites viz., Sewerage Farm, Sewapura and Mathuradapura in Jaipur and Keru in Jodhpur had not been obtained by JMC and MCJ respectively as of April 2004. Although JMC had applied for authorisation for Khori Ropara site for future use, the authorisation was yet to be obtained from Rajasthan Pollution Control Board.

As such landfill sites had not been set up even after expiry of the prescribed date and thus, about 900 tonnes MSW of Jaipur and 380 tonnes MSW of Jodhpur was being dumped on unauthorised sites or was used to fill up the pits or low lying areas.

(ii) Dumping site at Keru of Jodhpur where untreated 380 tonnes of MSW was being dumped daily, was situated in catchment area of Kaylana water storage tank of Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED) and Umaid Sagar of Irrigation Department, ignoring health hazards due to contamination of surface water being supplied to Jodhpur city for drinking.

(iii) Dumping site of Sewerage Farm at Gurjar Ki Thadi, New Sanganer Road in Jaipur neither belongs to JMC nor was allotted to it by JDA. Moreover, it is surrounded by dense habitations and is located only 10 km away from Sanganer Air Port, for which No Objection Certificate (NOC) was not obtained. Even then, JMC had been dumping 380 tonnes of MSW daily on this unauthorised and potentially unsafe site for air traffic.

(iv) The existing dumping site was scheduled to be developed by 31 December 2001, but development works costing Rs 22.00 lakh being carried out at Keru (Jodhpur) under Asian Development Bank (ADB) project were lying incomplete (February 2004).

(v) With a view to monitoring the quality of ground water, post-closure care of landfill sites was to be conducted at least for 15 years. Contrary to this, post-closure care of the closed dumping sites of Kanota, Vishwa Karma Industrial Area (VKIA) and Dehlawas was not done by JMC reportedly due to paucity of funds, thereby ignoring possible ill-effects on health of human beings.

### **7.2 Unsafe disposal of biomedical waste without proper treatment**

With a view to ensuring proper handling of Bio-Medical Waste (BMW), GOI promulgated BMW (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998. According to these rules, BMW was to be handled so as to minimise adverse effects on human health and the environment.

The following points were noticed in audit:

(i) Authorisation for disposal of BMW at Keru was not obtained by MCJ from Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.

(ii) Since incinerators installed by medical institutions in Jodhpur did not meet the prescribed emission limits due to their poor maintenance, Central Pollution Control Board advised (September 2001) MCJ for installation of a Common Treatment Facility (CTF) with requisite pollution control measures which had not been set up in Jodhpur as of February 2004. Instead, 825 kgs of BMW generated daily in Jodhpur was being transported by MCJ for dumping at Keru, a MSW dumping site, without carrying out any treatment through proper equipment e.g., autoclave, microwave, shredder or deep burial of residues, etc. necessary for BMW.

(iii) Mixing of BMW with other types of waste was prohibited. In Jaipur, a CTF had been established (February 2002) for treatment of BMW generated by various medical institutions of the city but 126 private hospitals/health care units could not be joined with CTF as of April 2004, hence BMW generated by these institutions was getting mixed with MSW. No effective action against defaulting institutions generating BMW was taken by JMC.

### **7.3 Unauthorised working and improper management of slaughter houses**

GOI in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had issued "Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter House) Rules, 2001" for proper management of slaughter houses.

The following significant deficiencies/ short-comings were noticed:

**(i) *No authorised slaughter house***

In Kota, there was no authorised slaughter house, hence illegal slaughtering of animals and sale of uncertified meat continues. Construction of new slaughter house at Sripura (Kota) sanctioned (2002-03) by the Government could not be started (February 2004) due to non-removal of encroachment on the land. Thus, unauthorised slaughter houses and sale of uncertified meat could not be prevented.

**(ii) *Non-shifting of slaughter houses outside the habitated area***

In Jaipur, two slaughter houses at Chandpole and Fatehtiba were being operated by JMC since pre-independence. In Jodhpur, two slaughter houses at Siwanchi gate and Medatiya gate had been working under the control of MCJ since 1935. These slaughter houses situated in the densely populated areas were neither following the safety/health norms prescribed under the rules nor were shifted outside the cities/habitated area.

**(iii) *Non-conducting of thorough examination of animals before slaughter***

**(a)** In Jodhpur, examination of animals before slaughter was not done due to vacant post of Health Officer and non-posting of Veterinary Doctor. Consequently, the certification of meat by MCJ had no validity and chances of health hazards among consumers could not be ruled out.

**(b)** Veterinary doctor had to examine thoroughly not more than 96 animals brought for slaughter in a day. However, up to 545 animals in a day were shown to have been examined by the doctor at Fatehtiba slaughter house (Jaipur) indicating slaughtering of animals without proper and thorough health check-up. Further fitness certificates in prescribed forms in respect of animals found fit had not been issued by Veterinary Doctor of JMC.

Thus, chances of consumption of meat from unhealthy animals could not be ruled out.

#### **7.4 Non-establishment of carcass utilisation centres**

Dead animals attract birds and vultures creating hazards for Indian Air Force (IAF) air-craft in Jodhpur. Therefore, GOI had accorded (October 2000) sanction for establishment of carcass utilisation centre at a cost of Rs 3.15 crore and released (2000-01) Rs 50 lakh to the State Government under a Centrally sponsored scheme<sup>38</sup>. However, State Government had not released Central share along with its contribution to the MCJ as of February 2004. This

38. Centrally Sponsored Scheme- "Assistance to States for Establishing Carcass By-products Utilisation Centre and Hide Flaying Units".

led to non-establishment of carcass utilization centre at Jodhpur and consequently the carcasses of dead animals continued to be dumped near Badli village (Jodhpur), increasing the flight hazards for IAF air-craft.

### **7.5 Unhealthy use of sewerage due to non-establishment of sewerage treatment plants**

Safe disposal of sewerage was to be done by using sewerage treatment plant. No such plant had, however, been set up in any of the two Corporations (Jodhpur and Kota) as of February 2004. Instead, sewerage of Kota was unauthorisedly being let in Chambal river and that of Jodhpur was either auctioned to farmers for cultivation of crops/vegetables or disposed of in old ponds. According to a survey, heavy metals such as Cadmium and Chromium were also released in the sewerage which ultimately flows into the Chambal river system raising the degree of risk to the people using river water.

Sewerage of Jaipur (except Northern part of walled city) was being disposed off in open *nullah* near Sanganer town. At certain places it was being pilfered by farmers for cultivation, even though Sr. Health Officer of JMC had opined that use of vegetables so grown might be a serious health hazard for the consumers.

Thus, due to non-establishment of sewerage treatment plants, unsafe disposal and use of sewerage was allowed to cause environmental pollution and health hazards.