

DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE THROUGH SOURCE SEGREGATION BY ENGAGING RAG PICKERS - JUSCO

• **Background**

The management of municipal solid waste in India has surfaced or continued to be a severe problem not only because of environmental and aesthetic concerns but also because of the enormous quantities generated every day. Even though only 31% of Indian population resides in urban areas, this population of 377 million (Census of India, 2011) generates a gigantic 1,43,449 metric tonnes per day of municipal solid waste, as per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 2014-15 and these figures increase every day with an increase in population. To further add to the problem, the total number of towns (statutory and census) in the country have also increased from 5,161 in 2001 to 7,936 in 2011, thus increasing the number of municipal waste generation by 2,775 within a decade.

The management of municipal solid waste is one of the main functions of all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the country. All ULBs are required to meticulously plan, implement and monitor all systems of urban service delivery especially that of municipal solid waste. With limited financial resources, technical capacities and land availability, urban local bodies are constantly striving to meet this challenge.

Jamshedpur Utilities and Services Company Limited (JUSCO), India's first private sector comprehensive urban infrastructure service provider, initiated a programme for door to door collection of solid waste through source segregation by engaging rag pickers, in Jamshedpur.

The project addressed issues like:

- Mixed waste collection
- Insanitary practice through littering of solid waste
- Stray animal and rodent nuisance
- Leachate generation
- Foul smell

• **Location, Date**

Jamshedpur – Tata Steel Leasehold Area; Sept 2015 – March 2018

• **Areas**

Urban

• **Stage/Scale**

The project is currently under implementation. The project benefitted 2.5 lakh population directly and 0.08 lakh population indirectly.

• **Objective of the assignment**

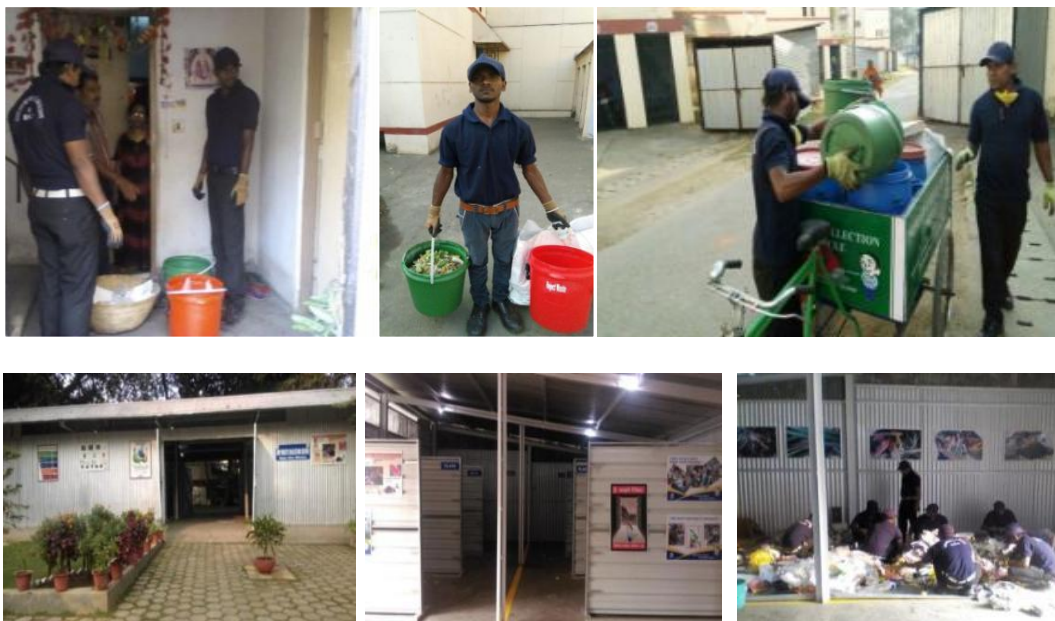
To address waste at source for effective solid waste management and generate employment

• What was done

The whole project was implemented phase-wise:

- Conceptualisation (by JUSCO)
- Implementation (by JUSCO & partners)
- Operation (by rag-pickers)
- Maintenance (by JUSCO)

The project involved engaging, organising, training & handholding rag-pickers; provision of waste management tools and equipment to the rag-pickers; awareness campaign on source segregation at community-level; etc.



Awareness Creation and Source Segregation
Door to Door Collection

An enumeration of rag-pickers was done. They were issued occupational identity cards. Subsequently, JUSCO entered into agreement with these rag-pickers and provided them with required resources for smooth conduct of the project. To gain their trust, JUSCO conducted regular health camps for them, besides providing other benefits.



• **Impact**

- Improved livelihood of rag-pickers by engaging them in source segregation of solid waste.
- End to solid waste management-related issues of Jamshedpur, as listed in the background section.
- By adoption of source segregation, there is a drastic reduction in resources involved in road sweeping, drain cleaning and garbage haulage.

• **Challenges and Issues**

- Changing the mind set of rag pickers towards this project.
- Encouraging people to practice and support the programme.

• **Innovation**

The innovation of the project is in the process of engaging the rag-pickers and sustaining the project.

• **Lessons learnt**

- Stakeholder and community engagement is key to sustain a project
- Organising informal sector can reap benefits for all i.e. the sector itself, the community and the environment.

• **Financials**

The planned budget for year 2014-15 was INR 34 Crores, while for year 2015-16, it was INR 36 crores.

• **Economic sustainability/Revenue Model**

JUSCO has sustained the project with its funds, revenue generation from resource sale, awareness drives, health campaigns for workers, etc.

• **Implementer Contact Persons**

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• **Sources and References**

- Study Submitted by JUSCO