



**A  
DAY  
IN  
SHIVAJINAGAR**

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## What?

The process of collecting and treating all solid wastes - domestic waste, sanitary waste, commercial waste, institutional waste, catering and market waste and other non-residential wastes, street sweepings, silt removed or collected from the surface drains, horticulture waste, construction and demolition waste and treated bio-medical waste excluding industrial hazardous waste, bio-medical waste and e-waste - generated in an area.

## Why?

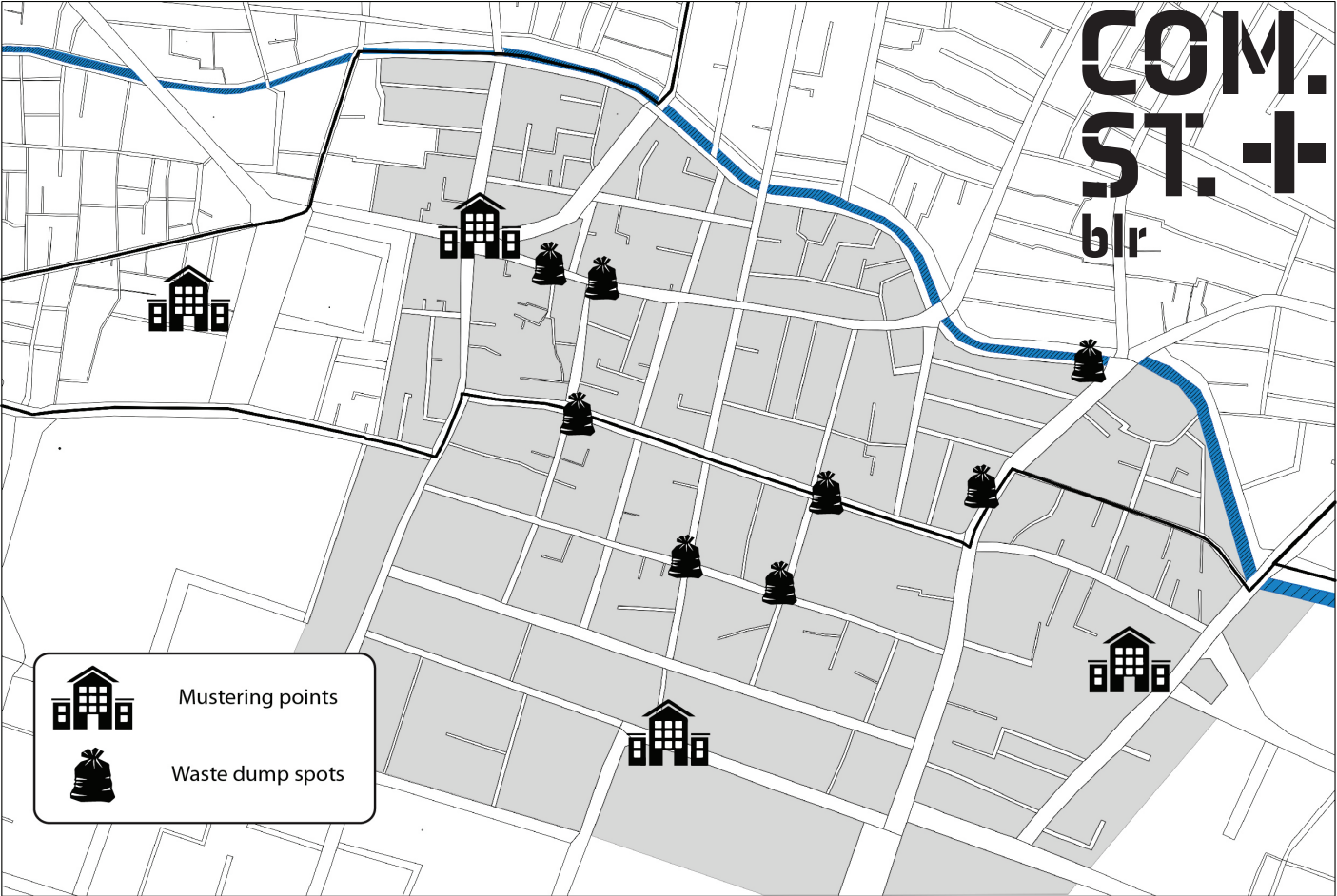
Rapid urbanization necessitates the management of solid waste at generation, storage, collection, transfer & transport, processing and disposal stages in an environmentally sound manner.

## Solid Waste Management

## Who?

As per the Municipal Solid Waste Management rules, BBMP is responsible for undertaking the waste management. About 70% of the MSW (Municipal Solid waste) activity starting from primary collection to disposal has been outsourced & 30% is managed by BBMP.

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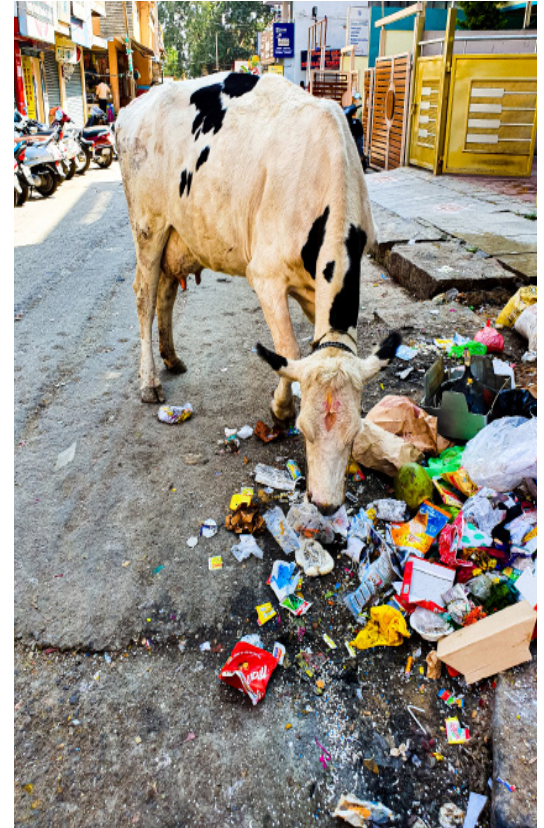
 Mustering points

 Waste dump spots





An early morning walk through the deserted streets of Shivajinagar presents one with the sight of garbage along the roads, sometimes piled up, otherwise just strewn across the streets. This includes the waste thrown out from both households and commercial establishments. You could see garbage being flung onto the streets from residences in the upper floors. Since these dumps often include food waste, various animals like cattle and street dogs can be seen feeding on the same.





However, after 6 am, BBMP workers (better known as 'Pourakarmikas') wearing green uniforms, start to come along to clean the streets. They sweep the streets and gather the waste left on the roads by residents, shops and others into small piles, which is then collected in sacks.



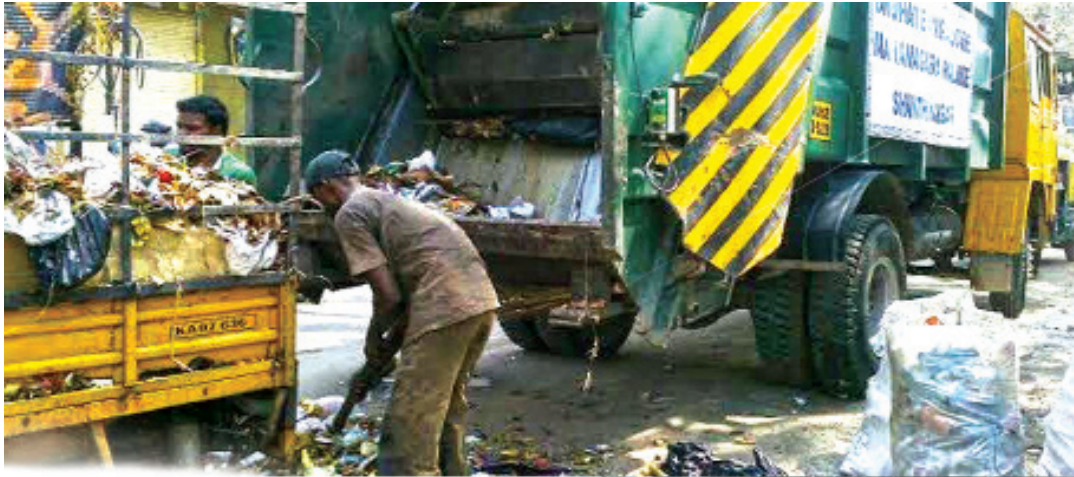


Hand-driven push carts are then used to collect these sacks. On the streets that are too narrow even for autos to go in, these carts are the only mode of garbage collection.



Once these rickety push carts are crammed with garbage, they are taken to auto-tippers for unloading. Auto-tippers and luggage autos also directly collect the garbage from streets wide enough for them.





The waste collected in auto-tippers and luggage autos are brought to the designated mustering points for each ward and then transferred to compactors.

Compactors take the waste to their corresponding destinations.







Even though each of the Pourakarmikas are assigned specific areas for cleaning, due to multiple reasons, some spots might be still left uncleaned for a long time. Such spots would demand more manpower for their restoration to a clean state. To take care of such areas, the Pourakarmikas get together after completing their daily duties and work collectively with added efforts. The workers colloquially call this the 'gang work'. Some of the workers have been in this profession for over a decade and they claim that the amount of plastic waste is indeed lower nowadays. Despite the unhealthy working conditions and meagre salary, they greeted us happily and offered us refreshments while we sat with them to chat.



Garbage from large commercial establishments like hotels and textile shops are collected directly by lorries. Such bulk generators also depend on private contracts to dispose of their waste.





Rag-pickers and 'Raddiwalas' play a crucial role in the informal waste labour system in the area. They are equally active in the ecosystem of waste management, along with the formal system maintained by BBMP. Rag-pickers wander through the crowded streets and collect the littered waste that they could exchange for money while raddiwalas scavenge the garbage dumps, thus helping to generate value from waste.



By the time the shops open, all the streets are swept and cleaned. But as the day progress, the streets start accumulating waste gradually and are again littered with trash by the end of the day. This endless cycle continues.



