

## Executive summary

### Introduction and Audit frame work

- Solid Waste Management (SWM) in Urban areas has emerged as one of the biggest challenges that our Municipalities faces today. There are 114 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) responsible for implementation of the SWM Rules, (SWM) 2016 in the State. During 2019-20, the generation of estimated solid waste generation in these ULBs was 2,208.60 Tonnes Per Day (TPD), while Plastic waste accounted for 45,339.40 Tonnes Per Annum (TPA), C&D waste 1,646 TPD, e-waste 396.77 Tonnes Per Month and BMW 179.93 TPD.

*(Paragraph 1.1)*

- A Performance Audit on “Waste management in Urban areas” was conducted covering the period from April 2015 to March 2020 to obtain an assurance on the laid down principles, whether management of waste was effective, efficient and carried out economically and scientifically. Performance Audit revealed several deficiencies in the planning, implementation and monitoring of waste management.
- Out of 114 ULBs, 21 ULBs consisting of 5 Corporations, 10 Municipalities and 6 Notified Area Councils, were selected for audit along with the 2 Smart cities of Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.

*(Paragraphs 1.4 and 1.6)*

### Financial Management

- Scrutiny of the financial statements of the test checked ULBs revealed that they were dependent of the grants from Government. The expenditure of ULBs on SWM ranged between 11 and 16 *per cent* of their total expenditure.

*(Paragraph 2.2)*

- User fees were leviable for the purpose of collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste. The by-laws of Waste management provide rates of user fees to be collected from households. Audit observed that out of 21 test checked ULBs, only seven ULBs collected user fees for SWM during 2017-21.

*(Paragraph 2.3)*

- In six test-checked ULBs, areas under the control of Indian Railways were within the municipal urban limits. The waste generated within the railway premises were handed over to municipalities. However, none of the ULBs collected the user fee for waste generation from Indian Railways.

*(Paragraph 2.3.1)*

- The by-laws of Waste management also provide spot fines for littering of solid waste. Audit observed that none of test checked ULBs have collected spot fines for littering from individual households, community based organisations (CBOs), market complexes, *kalyan mandaps etc.*

*(Paragraph 2.3.2)*

- As per the conditions of the FFC, due to non-achievement of service-level benchmarks and non-preparation of annual accounts, the ULBs did not get the central assistance of ₹333.58 crore.

*(Paragraph 2.4)*

### **Planning and Strategy of Solid Waste Management**

- SWM Rules 2016 (notified on 08 April 2016) stipulated that the State Government should prepare a State Policy and strategy on SWM within one year of notification of the Rules. However, as of February 2022, the H&UD department had not notified a State Policy for integrated SWM.

*(Paragraph 3.2)*

- As the ULBs did not prepare short-term or long-term action plans for solid waste management, the planning and selection of infrastructure projects in ULBs were, to a large extent, driven by perceived availability of funds rather than need-based analysis.

*(Paragraph 3.3.1)*

- None of ULBs have ensured solid waste management provision in building plans for market complexes or for a group housing societies. As a result, community participation in waste management could not be ensured.

*(Paragraph 3.3.2)*

- None of test checked ULBs had prepared DPRs for SWM. In absence of DPRs, quantum of assessment of per capita waste generation, coverage of design capacity for waste processing, contingency plan for waste management, strategy for implementation of 3R approaches, involvement of stakeholders in planning and involvement of waste pickers in waste management could not be assessed in Audit.

*(Paragraph 3.5)*

- Government of Odisha had not initiated any strategy/policy for prevention, minimising, reuse and recycling of waste as of March 2021 resulting in 90 *per cent* of waste being deposited at landfill / dump sites without processing.

*(Paragraph 3.11)*

### **Segregation, Collection and Transportation of solid waste**

- It was found that segregation at source was limited to 21 test checked ULBs. Also, Non-notification of domestic hazardous waste led to dumping the mixed waste in landfills.

*(Paragraph 4.1.2)*

- Due to non-adherences of 3R approach, per capita waste generation had increased from 423 gm/day in 2017-18 to 580 gm/day in 2019-20 as against CPCB norms of 413gm/day to 423 gm/day.

*(Paragraph 4.3.2.4)*

### **Processing and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste**

- In 11 test checked ULBs habitations were developed within a distance of 200 meters from landfills and within 500 meter of buffer zone in four ULBs

and causing possible health hazards to public. Landfills in five ULBs were within 20 kms from airport/air base

*(Paragraph 5.1.2.2)*

### **Special waste and Construction and Demolition Waste management**

- None of the test checked ULBs except Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, has framed the by-laws incorporating the provisions of PWM Rules. By-laws of the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation were yet to be approved (March 2021).

*(Paragraph 6.1.1)*

- Plastic waste was not transferred to PWD, the alternate user for use in laying of roads.

*(Paragraph 6.1.3)*

- All waste generators shall pay such user fees as may be specified in the by-laws of the ULBs for plastic waste management. Neither of the ULBs have framed by-laws for Plastic waste management nor collected user fee for plastic waste. Non-framing/non-enforcement of by-laws for plastic waste management led to loss of revenue to the ULBs.

*(Paragraph 6.1.5)*

### **Solid waste management by Smart Cities**

- Audit observed that 2,956 TPD of solid waste and 35,057 TPA of plastic waste was disposed to land fill without processing during 2015-20. Similarly, 134 TPA of C&D waste collected during 2018-20 was disposed to landfill without processing in the Smart cities.

*(Paragraph 7.6)*

- User charges towards Solid Waste Management were not collected by Bhubaneswar and Rourkela Smart cities. Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation also did not collect user charges as of March 2021. Rourkela Municipal Corporation, however, started collection of user charges from May 2020.

*(Paragraph 7.6.2)*

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of Waste management system**

- No meeting was held by the Urban Development Department to review measures taken by SLAB for improving SWM practices and execution of SWM projects during 2017-20 indicating poor monitoring by State level bodies.

*(Paragraph 8.1.1)*