

Wellbeing of Waste Pickers: A Case Study in Dumping Ground of Guwahati City, India

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Waste pickers are that workers who collect recyclable materials from the waste disposed by people to earn a small wage. Today the waste management authority is unable to keep pace with the growing population, diversify functions and expansion of the city. Therefore, it is found that the waste pickers has gone alone to informally manage the unsegregated waste. Guwahati the capital city of Assam is generated more solid waste and its disposal pattern is not satisfactory like other cities in developing countries. The city is disposed the wastes in West Boragaon disposal site where burning of solid wastes affects the environment while the gas emission causes a public nuisance. The objectives of this paper is to find out the population structure and to study the health and wellbeing status of waste pickers in Waste Boragaon dumping ground area. The methodology adopted for the study is based on primary data collection from the study area. Findings shows that the correlation analysis between sex of workers, years of service, different ailments and exposure factors showed a positive correlation between eye irritation and dust, and also difficulty in breathing and smoke is significance. Also correlated with typhoid, dysentery, malaria and dysentery levels. In conclusion it may be mention that government should apply some strict rules and regulations for proper waste management practice to reduce the health hazards among the waste pickers.

Key words: *Health, Guwahati city, Waste disposal, Waste pickers*