



CHINTAN
Environmental Research
and Action Group

FACT SHEET

Waste Segregation

Segregation as per Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 2000 is now compulsory. Segregation in simple language means separation of waste into DRY AND WET, so that it is easier to handle it later.

Bio-Degradable Waste

(Organic Waste or Kitchen Waste)

- Vegetable
- Fruits
- Flowers
- Leaves from garden
- Wood shavings, pencil shavings

Non-Bio Degradable Waste

- Plastics
- Paper
- Glass
- Metal
- Frooti , and other tetrapacks
- Ponche ka purana kapra
- Aluminium foil

To know if a waste is bio-degradable or not, ask yourself this question: if it is put into a pit and covered, will it become mud or compost?

Why is Segregation important?

Segregation is important because :

- If the waste is not separated properly, it all gets mixed up in landfills. The dangers of this is that they all leak after a period of time, resulting in leachate or toxic soup at the bottom, which can contaminate ground water and release explosive methane gas.
- Methane is a green house gas, which ultimately leads to climate change, extreme climates and droughts. We can see the impact already in the world.
- Segregation protects health. When ragpickers put their hands into the waste to clean it up, it results in cuts that further leads to infections, resulting in

deterioration of a ragpicker's health. Hence, it becomes our responsibility to help these ragpickers by carefully segregating the waste that is generated at our homes.

- When the waste is not separated properly it leads to less recycling because it is not easy to remove materials for recycling. This means many resources are wasted.

How can you segregate?

- Start segregating the waste in your own house now.
- Segregation is one of the easiest practice to follow, it starts in your own kitchen. The waste can be categorized as wet and dry waste.
- Take two separate bins. One, which will have all the wet waste, and the other will have all the dry waste. Initially, begin segregation in your kitchen. Treat all the other waste from the rest of the house as dry waste.

For more information, contact:

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