

Awareness About Solid Waste Management – A Study with Reference to Home Makers in Chennai

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ABSTRACT

This study's objective is to evaluate the levels of knowledge and practices that are linked with the management of solid waste among homemakers in Chennai. Specifically, the research will focus on the city of Chennai. Managing garbage in an effective manner is becoming an urgent need for those who want to live a sustainable lifestyle. This is due to the fact that the population is expanding and the urbanisation rate is rising. This research evaluates the knowledge, of homemakers in regard to the disposal of garbage.

The ubiquitous waste management strategies that are used in households are investigated in this study, with a special emphasis placed on the role that homemakers play as key factors in shaping these practices. In this study, the grasp of concepts such as recycling, segregation of the solid waste, and the impact that improper waste disposal has on the environment is investigated. The purpose of the insights that were gathered from the study is to bring to light potential areas that may be improved via intervention and development.

The purpose of this awareness is to provide homemakers with the information they need to adopt waste management practices that are socially and ecologically responsible. This will ultimately result in a cleaner and greener Chennai. The findings of this study have the potential to serve as a valuable resource for residents, government, community, and environmental activists, therefore fostering a collective commitment to the implementation of responsible waste management practices.

Keywords: Health, Homemakers, Solid Waste, Waste Disposal

INTRODUCTION

As an established example of prosperity and growth, the city of Chennai stands out as a dynamic example of urban life due to its dynamic terrain. In addition, the city is a thriving example of urban life. The rapid urbanisation that is taking place, on the other hand, is a challenge that comes hand in hand with the difficulties of taking care of an ever-increasing volume of solid garbage. The homemakers are the most significant members of any household since they are the ones who are accountable for establishing the routines that are performed on a daily basis and contribute to this waste stream. It is not only a required but also an important approach to obtain an awareness of the community's knowledge and behaviour in

regard to the management of solid waste in order to cultivate a community that is environmentally conscious and sustainable. This is because the goal is to cultivate a community that is sustainable and environmentally conscious.

This study aims to explore the current level of knowledge and behaviours that are linked with the management of solid waste among homemakers in Chennai. Specifically, the research will focus on the local population. The limitations of our homes play a key influence in the formation of these habits, which are fundamental components of sustainable living. The complexity of waste disposal, segregation, and recycling are all vital components of sustainable living. The objective of this research is to shed light on both the challenges and possibilities that are involved with solid waste. The ultimate goal of this study is to untangle the complexities of homemakers' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours about solid waste.

A one-of-a-kind setting has been supplied by Chennai, which is well-known for its diverse population and significant cultural history. This study is being conducted against this backdrop. Furthermore, the purpose is not only to analyse the present situation; rather, it is to propose specific interventions and awareness campaigns that are in touch with the unique needs and dynamics of houses in this bustling metropolitan area. When homemakers are provided with the knowledge and resources necessary to manage garbage in a responsible manner, it has the potential to start off a constructive ripple effect that may quickly spread across the community. As a result of the fact that homemakers are the founders of family routines, it is essential that they acquire the ability to exercise agency.

In order to demonstrate a situation in which every house in Chennai is not just a consumer but also a conscientious contributor to the preservation of the environment, the objective of this study is to provide an illustration of such something. Through the acquisition of information and the enhancement of awareness among homemakers about the management of solid waste, our objective is to cultivate a community that endorses ecologically responsible behaviours, so paving the way for an urban environment that is cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF HOMEMAKERS TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Homemakers, as the primary decision-makers within households, play a vital part in the decision-making process concerning waste management. Individuals have a significant influence on the generation, segregation, and elimination of solid waste via their everyday choices and behaviours. Homemakers have a crucial role in determining the amount and kind of waste they create and the quantity of garbage they produce via their choices in food shopping and meal preparation.

Homemakers have a crucial responsibility in implementing ecologically friendly waste management techniques, rather than only being accountable for rubbish creation. These folks may contribute to reducing the environmental impact of their houses by practicing source segregation, recycling, and composting. Furthermore, homemakers play a crucial role in instilling environmentally sensitive behaviours in family members, hence fostering the growth of a culture that prioritises responsibility and awareness.

Recognising the important role that homemakers play in managing garbage emphasises the need of conducting targeted education and empowerment programmes to enhance their understanding and encourage the adoption of environmentally responsible behaviours within the household. Efforts to engage and empower homemakers in waste management not only lead to a cleaner and healthier living environment, but also foster the growth of a more sustainable and environmentally conscious community.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The collection, transportation, processing, recycling, disposal, and monitoring of waste products are all tasks that fall within the purview of household solid waste management. The term "waste" refers to anything that people no longer have any use for and that they either aim to get rid of or have already thrown. Some examples of rubbish include things like packing materials, garden debris, abandoned paint containers, vegetables, metals, and other similar goods (Enete, 2010). According to the findings of Adogu et al. (2015), safe and effective management of waste disposal is necessary in order to maintain healthy living conditions in any setting. According to Gentil et al. (2009), activities related to waste management have the potential to create environmental advantages if they are handled appropriately.

The environment in which we live plays an important role in ensuring our own survival as well as the survival of other living beings. Universally, there is a concerted effort being made to educate people about the need of preserving the natural environment. According to Vivek et al. (2013), inappropriate waste management in the disposal of solid waste is one of the

primary factors that contribute to the deterioration of the ecosystem. In many regions of the globe, it is a significant contributor to the spread of illnesses and the pollution that it causes. The fact that environmental crises are of concern on a worldwide scale and that there is often no long-term solution to environmental issues is a factor that makes the situation even more precarious.

The improper management of solid waste in households has major consequences for people's health in their day-to-day lives. Ineffective waste management, insufficient collection, and incorrect disposal of the waste facility might result in a variety of diseases, illnesses, and infestations. Malaria, typhoid fever, diarrhoea, cholera, helminthiasis, and dysentery are some of the diseases that fall into this category (Chengula et al, 2015). The authors Alam and Ahmade (2013) The improper disposal and management of solid waste is the source of pollution in the air, water, and land, as well as a significant contributor to the risk of major health problems.

According to Amuda et al. (2014), when the pace of urbanisation becomes out of control, it presents a significant challenge to governance, and the capacities of institutions become insufficient and ineffective from the perspective of waste management. To cite Saxena et al., 2020: The rapid growth of urban populations, economies, and power consumption in developing countries, in conjunction with the inability of institutional authorities responsible for city planning, roadworks, Solid Waste Management, and the environment to carry out their core functional duties, has resulted in the generation of a significant amount of solar energy.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To evaluate Homemakers' Awareness and Knowledge on solid waste management
- To examine the Practices followed by the homemakers in solid waste management

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

Accordingly, the following Hypotheses were tested for the study

Hypothesis I: There is no significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management

Hypothesis II: There is no significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management

RESEARCH PROBLEM

The ecological ramifications stemming from inadequate garbage disposal methods underscore the urgent need to address the issue of solid waste management in Chennai to the utmost degree. The inappropriate disposal of garbage not only contaminates the atmosphere, water bodies, and soil, but it also poses a risk to human health and welfare, as previously mentioned. Homemakers, who have significant decision-making power inside households, play a crucial role in facilitating this shift. There is a clear and undeniable need for a fundamental change in the way we approach waste management, shifting towards more responsible solutions.

Despite the urgency of this issue, there is a lack of information on the extent of awareness among homemakers in Chennai regarding solid waste management. The objective of this research is to elucidate the current state of information, attitudes, and behaviours that are widespread across households, with the aim of facilitating the reduction of this disparity. This is done to provide customised interventions that provide homemakers with the necessary knowledge and tools for environmentally conscious waste management.

METHODOLOGY

A thorough research design has been created to thoroughly explore the awareness levels among homemakers in Chennai about solid waste management. This study attempts to provide a comprehensive picture of the present level of awareness within this specific group by using a descriptive research technique.

The main method of gathering data will include conducting structured surveys and questionnaires. Furthermore, comprehensive interviews will be carried out to get a more profound understanding of the intricacies of waste management awareness. Primary data is obtained using the method of simple random sampling. A sample of 400 homemakers from

Chennai was questioned using a questionnaire for the research. A total of 356 questionnaires, accounting for 89% of the total, were completed and returned. Out of the total number of questionnaires, 16 (04 %) were incomplete and 28 (07 %) were not returned. The researchers have used the 356 fully filled questionnaires for the study.

In addition to primary data, secondary data will be collected from current literature, papers, and government publications to provide a full background for the research within the specific setting of Chennai.

DATA ANALYSIS

Table:1. Demographic background of Respondents

Demographic Characteristics		n (Total=356)	% of n
Age	18 years - 25 years	40	11.2
	26 years - 35 years	68	19.1
	36 years - 45 years	76	21.3
	46 years – 55 years	82	23.0
	56 years & above	90	25.3
Educational Status	School level	84	23.6
	Diploma	68	19.1
	Graduation	114	32.0
	Postgraduation	90	25.3
Monthly Household Income	Below 25,000 INR	68	19.1
	25,000 - 50,000 INR	72	20.2
	50,000 - 75,000 INR	78	21.9
	75,000 – 1,00,000 INR	60	16.9
	Above 1,00,000 INR	78	21.9
Type of House	Apartment	218	61.2
	Independent house	138	38.8

Source: Primary data
n - Number of respondents

From table:1, the age group of 18 to 25 years accounts for 11.2% of the whole sample population. The data suggests that the younger age group is less common among the questioned homemakers, since they are disproportionately underrepresented in the research. 19.1% of the total responders are between the age range of 26 to 35 years. This implies a somewhat greater proportion in comparison to the 18-25 age bracket, showing a wider incorporation of individuals in their late twenties and early thirties. The age group of 36 to 45 years is 21.3% of the whole sample population. This particular age demographic seems to be prominently featured in the research, suggesting a considerable proportion among the assessed individuals who are homemakers. 23.0% of the total responses are within the age range of 46 to 55 years. This indicates a significant representation of individuals aged between 40 and 50 years old, which enhances the variety of the participants in the research. Individuals aged 56 years and over who are responsible for managing household tasks make up 25.3% of the overall participants. This suggests a significant presence of elderly individuals in the research, which demonstrates the inclusion of a wide variety of ages.

23.6% of the total respondents had a school-level education. These findings indicate that a considerable proportion of the homemakers polled had attained education up to the level of primary or secondary school. 19.1% of the total respondents are homemakers who possess a diploma. This suggests a significant presence of individuals who have had specialised diploma education in the research. Individuals who have completed a level of education equivalent to graduation make up

32.0% of the overall population. This survey identifies the biggest educational category as consisting of a significant percentage of homemakers who have a bachelor's degree. 25.3% of the total respondents are homemakers who have postgraduate degrees. This indicates a substantial representation of persons with high levels of education.

19.1% of the total respondents are homemakers whose monthly family income is less than 25,000 INR. This indicates that a significant majority of the respondents polled had a lower level of income. Individuals whose monthly family income falls within the range of 25,000 to 50,000 INR constitute 20.2% of the overall population surveyed. This suggests a significant presence of persons within a middle economic bracket. 21.9% of the total respondents are homemakers whose monthly family income falls between 50,000 and 75,000 INR. This indicates a notable prevalence of persons with a comparatively greater income in the research. Individuals whose monthly household income is between the range of 75,000 to 1,00,000 INR constitute 16.9% of the overall population. This suggests a significant, if smaller, presence of persons in the upper-middle-income bracket. 21.9% of the total respondents are homemakers whose monthly family income exceeds 1,00,000 INR. This indicates a notable prevalence of persons with a higher socioeconomic status in the research.

61.2% of the respondents live in flats. These findings indicate that a considerable percentage of the homemakers questioned in Chennai reside in multi-unit housing complexes. This might potentially affect waste management strategies, considering the communal character of amenities in apartment buildings. 38.8% of the total respondents are homemakers living in independent dwellings. This suggests a significant number of people living in detached homes, who may face distinct waste management difficulties and approaches compared to those living in apartments.

Table:2. Behaviours of Homemakers regarding Solid Waste Management

Behaviours		n (Total=356)	% of n
Method of waste storage	Bags	245	68.8
	Containers with covers	66	18.5
	Containers without covers	45	12.6
Element that motivates the household occupants to dispose waste properly	Cleanliness	148	41.6
	Fear of illness	166	46.6
	Odour	42	11.8
How do you currently dispose of your household waste?	Municipal Bin	215	60.4
	Recycling Bin	66	18.5
	Garbage Collection Service	75	21.1
What sources do you rely on for information about solid waste management?	Television	56	15.7
	Newspapers	72	20.2
	Social Media	150	42.1
	Local Community Programs	33	9.3
	Friends and Family	45	12.6

Source: Primary data

n - Number of respondents

68.8% of the respondents use bags as their main means of trash containment. This customary practice may include using plastic or reusable bags for gathering and disposing of domestic refuse. It is worth mentioning that this strategy is extensively embraced by the surveyed homemakers. 18.5% of the participants use containers equipped with lids. This indicates that a significant part of individuals who manage household tasks choose to use containers that are covered, which may assist in keeping unpleasant smells contained and reducing the amount of garbage that is exposed to the outside

environment. Only 12.6% of people use uncovered containers for garbage storage. This approach might be more transparent and conspicuous, possibly impacting aspects like as odour management and visual appeal.

Approximately 41.6% of the participants said that cleanliness is the main driving factor behind appropriate garbage disposal. This indicates that a considerable number of individuals living in households prioritise a tidy environment and are driven to correctly handle garbage in order to preserve cleanliness and visual appeal. 46.6% of respondents said that the fear of sickness acts as a driving force for practicing appropriate trash disposal. This underscores the awareness and apprehension among survey participants over the possible health hazards linked to inadequate waste management methods. Only 11.8% of the respondents considered odour as a motivating factor for appropriate trash disposal. This implies that while odour may not be the main factor driving most responders, it does have an impact on shaping waste management behaviours for a certain group of individuals living in households.

60.4% of the participants said that they now discard their domestic rubbish in municipal dumpsters. This indicates a prevalent dependence on public garbage collection infrastructure, where families contribute to centralised waste disposal by using municipal bins. 18.5% of individuals using recycling containers to dispose of their home garbage, which is a significant proportion. This signifies a favourable involvement in recycling activities, whereby families are segregating recyclable materials for suitable processing. 21.1% of people choose to use rubbish collection services for disposing of their domestic waste. This may include prearranged collection or services offered by waste management companies for the appropriate and effective disposal of non-recyclable garbage.

Television is used as an information source for solid waste management by 15.7% of the respondents. These findings indicate that a portion of the participants in the study depend on television programmes or broadcasts to get knowledge about trash management methods. 20.2% of respondents rely on newspapers as an information source. This suggests that print media has a role in spreading knowledge about solid waste management procedures among the persons studied. 42.1% of individuals heavily depend on social media sites for obtaining information on solid waste management. This underscores the increasing impact of internet platforms in altering understanding and behaviours pertaining to waste management techniques. Only 9.3% of individuals get knowledge via local community programmes. This indicates that community-based efforts have a role in spreading information about methods related to the management of solid waste. 12.6% of respondents rely on friends and family as an information source. This emphasises the significance of the interpersonal network in disseminating knowledge and strategies pertaining to trash management among community members.

HYPOTHESIS I

Null Hypothesis: There is no significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management

Table:3. Friedman test for significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management

Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management	Items	Mean Rank	Ranking
Knowledge of how to separate trash	ASWM1	4.54	I
The area should be clean and free of trash	ASWM2	3.89	IV
Improper waste management contribute to disease occurrence	ASWM3	3.84	V
Everyone in the city is responsible for taking care of solid trash	ASWM4	4.30	II
Problems that come up because of improper trash handling are dangerous	ASWM5	4.17	III
Know how to get rid of e-waste	ASWM6	3.64	VI
Waste disposal on open places will be harmful for human health	ASWM7	3.62	VII

Source: Statistically analysed data

Regarding the ‘Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management’ (Table:3) respondents with the highest mean and focus more on ‘Knowledge of how to separate trash’ (4.54) followed by Everyone in the city is responsible for taking care of solid trash (4.30), Problems that come up because of improper trash handling are dangerous (4.17), The area should be clean and free of trash (3.89), Improper waste management contribute to disease occurrence (3.84), Know how to get rid of e-waste (3.64), and Waste disposal on open places will be harmful for human health (3.62).

The respondents have ranked "Knowledge of how to separate trash" as the most essential component of knowledge about solid waste management, giving it the highest average rating. There is a strong awareness among homemakers about the need of correctly separating garbage. The criterion of "The area should be clean and devoid of litter" is assigned the fourth position in terms of average ranking. Although still significant, knowledge regarding waste separation is considered somewhat more crucial than this. The statement "Inadequate waste management contributes to the occurrence of diseases" is placed sixth in terms of average ranking. It represents a shared awareness among homemakers about the health consequences linked to insufficient waste disposal methods.

The concept that "Every individual residing in the urban area bears the responsibility of managing solid waste" ranks second in terms of average ranking. These findings indicate a strong sense of community obligation awareness among the participants. The statement "Improper trash handling leads to dangerous problems" ranks third in terms of mean rank. This demonstrates an acknowledgment of the possible hazards linked to inadequate waste management methods. The knowledge on "How to dispose of electronic waste" is ranked sixth in terms of average rank. Although it is still seen as significant, it is given a lesser level of importance in comparison to other factors. The recognition that "Uncontrolled waste disposal in open areas poses a threat to human health" is placed eighth in terms of average ranking. It highlights the need of raising awareness among homemakers on the adverse effects of open dumping.

Table:4. Significance for Awareness of Homemakers on Solid Waste Management

N	356
Chi-Square	72.027
df	6
Asymp. Sig.	0.000**
	Significant

Source: Statistically analyzed data

Note: ** Denotes significance at 1 % level

A Chi-Square test was performed with a sample size of 356, yielding a Chi-Square value of 72.027 with 6 degrees of freedom. The p-value, which represents the asymptotic significance, is stated as 0.000. The p-value of 0.000 is below the usual significance level of 0.05 (assuming a standard significance threshold). The result is deemed statistically significant due to the low p-value.

The Chi-Square test demonstrates a statistically significant correlation or disparity between the observed and predicted frequencies in the data pertaining to knowledge among homemakers on solid waste management. The available findings supports the rejection of the null hypothesis, indicating a correlation or disparity in the degree of knowledge among homemakers about solid waste management.

HYPOTHESIS II

Null Hypothesis: There is no significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management

Table:5. Friedman test for significant difference between Mean Ranks towards Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management

Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management	Items	Mean Rank	Ranking
Provide enough places to throw away trash, like landfills, recycling centres, and composting facilities	PSWM1	4.43	IX
Residents should feel responsible	PSWM2	4.49	VII
Adhere to a good system for dealing with household trash	PSWM3	4.47	VIII
Dispose the solid waste regularly	PSWM4	6.06	I
Separation into recycling, organic waste, and other trash that can't be recycled	PSWM5	4.86	VI
Cut down on the use of single-use plastics	PSWM6	5.59	II
Follow and improve trash management rules and laws	PSWM7	4.96	V
Reusing shopping bags	PSWM8	5.15	III
Trash from the kitchen is turned into compost for the garden	PSWM9	5.00	IV

Source: Statistically analysed data

Regarding the 'Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management' (Table:5) respondents with the highest mean and focus more on 'Dispose the solid waste regularly' (6.06) followed by Cut down on the use of single-use plastics (5.59), Reusing shopping bags (5.15), Trash from the kitchen is turned into compost for the garden (5.00), Separation into recycling, organic waste, and other trash that can't be recycled (4.86), Residents should feel responsible (4.49), Adhere to a good system for dealing with household trash (4.47), and Provide enough places to throw away trash, like landfills, recycling centres, and composting facilities (4.43).

The activity of consistently disposing of solid waste is regarded as the top priority in terms of mean rank. Respondents choose the regular and timely disposal of home garbage as the most crucial practice. The action of reducing the use of disposable plastics is listed as the second highest in terms of average ranking. Respondents demonstrate a strong understanding about the significance of limiting the use of single-use plastic as a waste management strategy. The act of using shopping bags again ranks third in terms of average position. These findings indicate that respondents highly value the practice of reusing shopping bags as an effective and sustainable method of trash management.

The activity of converting kitchen waste into compost for the garden is placed fourth in terms of average ranking. This underscores the acknowledgment of composting kitchen garbage as a beneficial waste management technique. The process of categorising garbage into recycling, organic waste, and non-recyclable rubbish is ranked sixth in terms of average ranking. Although it remains significant, it is of lesser importance as compared to other activities. The statement "Ensuring an adequate number of waste disposal sites, such as landfills, recycling centres, and composting facilities" ranks eighth in terms of average ranking. These findings indicate that participants believe that human actions have a greater influence than the presence of waste disposal facilities.

The task of implementing an effective system for managing home waste is evaluated as the eighth most important task based on its mean rank. This underscores the need of implementing an efficient system to handle domestic trash management. The practice of adhering to and enhancing regulations and legislation on waste management is ranked sixth in terms of average ranking. This implies an acknowledgment of the significance of compliance with laws for efficient

waste management. The phrase "Residents should feel responsible" ranks eighth in terms of mean rank. This suggests that while the importance of societal responsibility is acknowledged, individual actions are seen to have a greater influence.

Table:6. Significance for Practices followed by the Homemakers in Solid Waste Management

N	356
Chi-Square	143.374
df	8
Asymp. Sig.	0.000**
	Significant

Source: Statistically analyzed data

Note: ** Denotes significance at 1 % level

A Chi-Square test was conducted with a sample size of 356, resulting in a Chi-Square value of 143.374 with 8 degrees of freedom. The p-value, denoting the asymptotic significance, is reported as 0.000. The p-value of 0.000 is statistically significant at a standard significance level of 0.05, assuming a normal significance threshold. The outcome is considered statistically significant as a consequence of the small p-value.

The Chi-Square test demonstrates a statistically significant correlation or disparity between the observed and predicted frequencies in the data pertaining to the practices used by homemakers in solid waste management. There is sufficient data to refute the null hypothesis, indicating that there is really a correlation or disparity in the methods used by homemakers when it comes to handling solid waste.

FINDINGS

The age distribution exhibits a heterogeneous and all-encompassing sample, with disparate proportions among various age cohorts. The age group of 56 years and above constitutes the biggest proportion of respondents in the research on awareness about solid waste management among homemakers in Chennai.

The distribution of educational status demonstrates a heterogeneous sample with varied educational backgrounds. Most of the participants in the research on awareness of solid waste management in Chennai had achieved a level of education equivalent to a graduation, suggesting a reasonably high level of educational achievement among the questioned homemakers.

The distribution of monthly family income reveals a wide variety of income levels among the polled homemakers. The research encompasses individuals from many socioeconomic backgrounds, offering a thorough perspective on the level of consciousness about solid waste management in Chennai across different income brackets.

The categorization of participants according to their dwelling type underscores the wide variety of housing arrangements seen among the studied homemakers. Comprehending the housing context is essential for customising waste management techniques to suit the particular requirements and difficulties linked with various types of dwellings in Chennai.

The research reveals that a significant proportion of assessed homemakers exhibit a preference for using bags as a means of trash storage, with the subsequent preference being for containers equipped with covers, and containers without coverings. Comprehending these widespread habits is essential for creating focused waste management awareness campaigns and interventions customised to the community's preferred ways of trash storage.

The research suggests that questioned home occupants are primarily motivated to practise correct trash disposal due to cleanliness and the fear of sickness. These results highlight the need of prioritising health and cleanliness in waste management awareness programmes to align with the community's incentives.

The research suggests that a significant proportion of participants depend on municipal bins for trash disposal, with a noteworthy amount actively participating in recycling activities and using garbage collection services. Gaining insight into these present disposal methods is essential for customising waste management actions and guaranteeing their compatibility with the community's existing habits and preferences.

The data reveals a wide array of sources from which respondents get knowledge regarding solid waste management, with a prominent dependence on social media and a substantial impact from friends and family. Gaining comprehension of these sources is crucial for formulating efficacious communication tactics to augment awareness and instruction about appropriate waste management procedures within the community.

Respondents prioritise understanding proper waste segregation as the most crucial element of solid waste management awareness, followed by a feeling of communal accountability. Comprehending various viewpoints may direct focused awareness efforts and educational endeavours to tackle certain facets of trash management.

The analysis indicates that respondents highly prioritise behaviours such as frequent disposal of solid waste, minimising the usage of disposable plastics, and using reusable shopping bags. These results provide useful insights into the preferences and priorities of homemakers regarding solid waste management practices, which may be used to guide the creation of focused awareness campaigns and initiatives.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Maintaining a clean environment has a positive impact on one's health and enhances the overall quality of life. Inadequate domestic solid waste management in the community may be attributed to a number of factors, the most important of which are a lack of suitable and sufficient infrastructures, inadequate awareness, insufficient coverage of collection systems, and a lack of cooperation from key stakeholders pertaining to households. A significant amount of information on the present state of knowledge and practices among homemakers in Chennai has been gleaned from the research that was conducted on the subject of solid waste management awareness among homemakers in Chennai.

Furthermore, the research demonstrated that while there is a basic comprehension of the legislation governing trash disposal, there is a deficiency in the ability to translate this information into actions that are consistent. In the process of establishing efficient waste management at the household level, many homemakers have highlighted difficulties, citing problems such as a lack of infrastructure and unclear instructions as the reasons for their difficulties.

According to the findings of the research, there is a pressing need for focused interventions to increase knowledge about the management of solid waste among homemakers in Chennai. In addition, there should be efforts made to address the difficult practical obstacles that homemakers confront when it comes to the implementation of appropriate waste management methods.

Through the participation of homemakers in community programmes and projects, it is possible to cultivate a feeling of communal responsibility, which may ultimately result in consequences that are more profound and long-lasting. Going ahead, local authorities and community leaders may make use of these results to plan and conduct targeted awareness programmes, give clearer standards for garbage disposal, and invest in the required infrastructure to promote sustainable waste management practices according to the findings. The findings of this study will serve as a basis for further research and practical interventions that will be implemented in the future with the intention of making Chennai a more ecologically aware and responsible community.

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