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**EFFICIENCY OF SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT
IN URBAN COUNCIL AREAS:
A STUDY BASED ON PANADURA URBAN COUNCIL**

THUSHARA FERNANDO

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ABSTRACT

Inappropriate solid waste disposal has become a burning issue for the inhabitants of Panadura city for years. Most of the solid waste generated at house and industry level end up directly in open dumps. Hence, the researcher endeavoured to explore the reasons for inefficiency of solid waste disposal management in Panadura area and that laid the foundation for this study.

In general, municipal authorities are responsible for collection and disposal of waste. However, there is a significant gap between the amount of waste generation and efficiency of waste collection and disposal. Hence, the area of study was mainly focused to identify the local government practices and extent to which the given resources are efficiently use for waste disposal. In collecting primary data, a questionnaire was administered among 200 people who were living in and around Panadura city by employing Likert scale and cluster sampling method. Secondary data have been collected by referring books, magazines, previous researches and web sites.

The comprehensive literature review conducted in this study, assisted the researcher to identify several independent variables to formulate six hypotheses. The data gathered in relation to hypotheses were then processed though SPSS 17, in terms of frequency, mean and standard deviation. Pearson correlation and factor analysis tools have been utilized to test the validity of hypotheses.

Having conducting the hypotheses testing, the researcher was able to come up with many valuable findings for reconstruction of the existing waste disposal system. In addition to that, many recommendations along with future researchable areas were described in length in order to facilitate officials and students interested in this particular area of study. Although an overnight change was not possible, the present situation certainly can be improved with proper commitment and willingness.

Though there were many variables tested, finally it was proved that the efficiency of waste disposal management was entirely depends on proper waste disposal process.