



BYN @ 88

BETTER YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

From the Editors' Desk

This August, we are celebrating 70 years of our Independence, as well as the 75th Anniversary of the 'Quit India' movement. Let us dedicate the fourth issue of our newsletter, the second this year, to the observance of these two epoch-making events. BYN@88 has completed more than a year, marked with great success in two of its endeavours. One is the launch of the waste segregation drive under the Corporate Social Responsibility scheme and the other, the cleaning of the well opposite the Dattaram Patil Udyan, at the curve our road. You will read more about these efforts in

this issue. The sense of achievement has been heartening and is an encouragement to go forward in other areas envisaged and to initiate more and better programmes, now that we are also registered under ALM. The commitment, time and effort given by dedicated residents have been exemplary and we are fortunate to have these 'pioneers' as members of our neighbourhood. Let them inspire us all to give our best to the betterment of BYN@88.

Progress can be made only with the involvement of every stakeholder in the

process. Communication and information are key to enhancing awareness and interest in the community. We urge you all to share your views, comments and suggestions on issues related to our community as well as others and contribute your articles, pictures, notes etc. to the newsletter to make it vibrant, inclusive and interesting. We hope to bring out the next issue bursting with your ideas and contributions. It all depends on YOU!

Understanding the Waste Hierarchy

(Second article in the series 'Talking Trash')
Adithi Muralidhar (Resident, Deonar House)

In the last article, we identified that two major issues related to the overflowing dumping grounds in Mumbai are

1) non-segregation of dry and wet waste and 2) production of excess waste by us. So then, this leads us to ask ourselves- what steps can we citizens take to tackle this issue? For this, it would be useful for us to take a closer look at the "Waste Hierarchy".

To protect the environment, there cannot be one-single solution or process. There are multiple solutions or processes that can be implemented individually or simultaneously. These solutions or processes arranged in an order of most favourable to least favourable gives us the "Waste Hierarchy". The hierarchy organizes the preferred programmes of waste management based on sustainability principles, that is, aiming to cause least damage to the environment.e up in our neighbourhood.

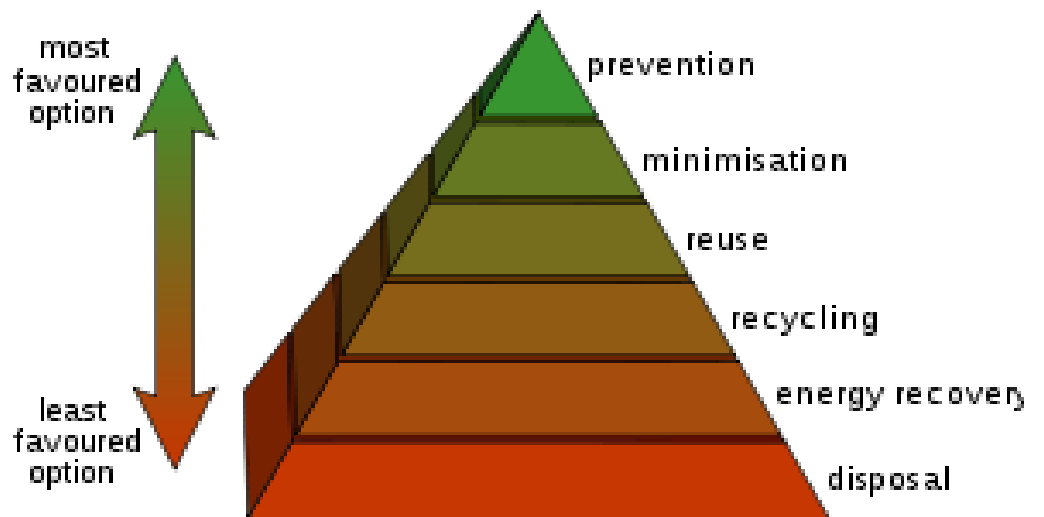


Image source: [Wikimedia Commons \(DrstueyStannered\)](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Waste_Hierarchy_Pyramid.png)

Highlights ●

Composting and segregation process begun in Deonar House, Deonar Gaonthan, Srriam Arcade and Chetan Apartments

Well rejuvenation completed!

Call for ideas to explore more initiatives for BYN@88 residents

Praise for BYN@88 by Asst Ward Commissioner (M-E), Mr Khilaje – more in the next issue!

Let us take an example

Let us say I like to buy a new shirt every month. If the shirt no longer fits me, gets torn, or I get bored of it, I do one of the following:
I throw it away in the dustbin, which means it will end up in the dumping ground or landfill. I have chosen the **least favoured** option of waste management- Disposal.

Usually clothes do not follow the path of energy recovery. But sometimes, what we dispose of in the landfill, is either incinerated or burnt openly. More controlled options include secondary recovered fuel, pyrolysis, gasification or plasma arc heating. All these processes reduce the waste in the landfill, but Unfortunately, they also have toxic gases as by-products. Hence, it is *not* a favoured option.

Let us say, that I made a bag out of the worn out shirts I have, then I chose the recycling method, which is more favourable than disposal and energy recovery. This prolongs the shirt's life in the consumer cycle.

Suppose I keep getting my shirts stitched and altered, and I use them for years together, then I have adopted the Reuse option.

Let us consider, that I change my buying pattern- I now buy a new shirt once in 6 months (and not every month). Then I have adopted a Reduce or Minimization option.

Lastly, I decide I will buy a shirt *only* when I need one and thus completely break the cycle of buying, using and throwing. This would mean I have adopted the **most favourable** method of waste management- preventing or avoiding the waste from even being produced.

The above example, though simplistic, is just an attempt to understand the existing options in the waste management hierarchy. Ideally, for electronic goods like cell-phones, tabs, laptops, computers; automobiles (bikes and cars), and house hold devices like fridge, TV, washing machine- beginning from the topof the waste pyramid (Avoid/prevention/minimization)

is advisable. But for things that we use on an everyday basis, it makes sense to adopt the middle levels of waste management, namely reusing and recycling.

In the upcoming issues of the newsletter, the *Talking Trash series* will try and see how we can accommodate all the waste we produce into the categories mentioned in the waste hierarchy.



If we have received great success with the waste management endeavour, it is due to the efforts of the many individuals involved and their enthusiasm and patience to see this through including the members of Deonar House and Chetan Apartments. This has been supported by RUR Greenlife, a consultancy firm working in the field of waste management.

RUR invites you to

WASTE IT OR INVEST IT

- Insight into Sustainable Waste Management Solutions
- Demo to make paper from Tetra Pak cartons
- Basics of bio composting
- Green Games and Quiz

Time: 5.30 to 7.00 PM Date: 3rd April
Venue: Deonar House, Govandi East

RUR designs and builds decentralized sustainable waste management solutions

A heartening beginning!



Deonar House & Chetan Apts Lead the Way!