DETERMEVATION OF LEACHATE EMISSIONS FROM DUMPSITESIN THE DISTRICT OF COLOMBO

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Declaration

The research work described in this thesis was carríed out exclusively by me at Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya under the supervision of Prof. B.F.A.Basnayake. A report on this thesis has not been submitted to any other university, for another degree.

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ABSTRACT

Solid waste management (SWM) is an integral part of the urban environment. It is important to plan the urban infrastructure to ensure a safe and healthy human environment while considering the promotion of sustainable economic growth. The disposal of the solid waste is the last operation in an integrated solid waste management system. Solid waste management is in the interest of the public at large. It is an exclusive service. Also it's non rivaled service. Municipal solid waste disposal has been an important issue for humankind, since waste is always generated -as a result of human activities. Land filling is considered to. be the most common municipal solid waste management strategy, since it is the simplest and the most economical method in most parts of the world.

This study focused on quantifying and characterizing leachate emissions ffom the selected dumpsites in the Colombo District and to determine benchmark values of leachate emissions from oíd and new dumpsites. Leachate samples from Senanayaka, Buthgama, Maharagama and Karadeyana dumpsites were collected and analyzed for pH, electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, Chemical oxygen demand, biochemical oxygen demand, phosphate, calcium, copper, nickel, lead, total suspended solid, chromium, and total nitrogen.

A validated monitoring and assessment procedures are being utilized and developed in many parts of the world and notably in North America. Thus, an effort was made to quantify leachate emissions from various landfill sites in the District of Colombo and the Hydrologic Evaluation of Landfill Performance (HELP) model was used to predict leachate generations in the dumpsites. It is the well configured and very "user ffiendly" model. Remarkably, it requires only daily climatologic data and wastes plus soil characteristics.

However, the literature review indicates that in semi-arid tropics and tropical climates, this model may not be applicable and validation is required. One of the ways

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is to confirm by comparing the data from lysimeters with that of the 'model' and applying these values to known dumpsites. Not all of the dumpsites can be monitored accurately due to limitations in scientific methodology, resources and time. However, few of the dumpsites were monitored and they could to be representative locations for the entire district. As expected low emissions were from older dumpsites and the heavy metal concentrations were considerable in the new ones, particularly from the dumpsite at Karadeyanna. It is very likely that heavy metal contaminations were from the surrounding industries. The impact of the scattered dumpsites in the Colombo District on the environment is considerable with BOD and COD values reaching 2500mg/l and 30,000mg/l respectively in the periphery of these dumps. Therefore, mining and rehabilitating these dumpsites should be undertaken as a priority measure to protect the health of the city dwellers and environment.

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CHAPTER 1 **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Background

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Solid waste management (SWM) is an integral part of the urban environment. It is important to plan the urban infrastructure to ensure a safe and healthy human environment while considering the promotion of sustainable economic growth. The disposal of the solid waste is the last operation in the solid waste management. Solid waste management is in the interest of the public at large. It is an exclusive service. Also it's non rivaled service. Municipal solid waste disposal has been an important issue for humankind, since waste is always generated as a result of human activities. Land filling is considered to be the most common municipal solid waste management strategy, since it is the simplest and the most economical method in most parts of the world.

Sri Lanka is a developing country with a per capita GNP of US\$ 750, is an island in the Indian ocean off the Southern Coast of India, which has total land area of 65,610 km2 hosting a population of 18.99 million (2002). Disposal of solid waste is a major environmental problem in Sri Lanka at present and has become a national issue. The National Action Plan of Sri Lanka (1998-2001) has identified solid waste disposal to be one of the major causes for environmental degradation. None of the Local Authorities (LA s), particularly those in Urban areas have proper disposal system in place. The most common way of municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal in the country is open dumping of waste. The issue of MSW is most acute in the Colombo municipal area and in Suburbs, MSW disposal in Sri Lanka is primarily a function of the pubic sector and in most of the urbanized municipalities MSW management is the largest employer of labor and is a very expensive operation. In Sri Lanka, major amount of the MSW management cost is allocated for waste collection and *9* transportation rather than for waste disposal and treatment (ERM, 1997).

The predominant method of waste disposal in the Colombo District is open dumping. Some of these dumpsites are being operated and some have been temporary or presently closed. The local authorities are now under pressure to establish better

solutions than indiscriminate open dumping of MSW and it is likely that management of wastes will be improved. However, the existing dumpsites will continué to pollute the environment affecting the populations and future generations. Therefore it is important to quantify the emissions for rehabilitating and mining of these dumpsites.

Most parts of the Colombo District are densely populated with defined urban settlements that are expanding and becoming large towns and cities. Waste generations in these areas are high and unmanageable since capacity mobilization is poor for collection, transportation and recycling of wastes. In addition, waste disposal sites in some of the urban centers have begun to cause noticeable pollution of land, water and air.

The health hazards and environment degradation from the uncontrolled and unlined landfills are well known facts. The most commonly reported danger to human health from these landfills is from the use of polluted ground water contaminated by leachate. Thus, leachate is a significant threat to the quality of groundwater. A number of incidences have been reported in the past, where leachate had contaminated the surrounding soil and polluted the underlying groundwater aquifers or nearby surface waters. Contamination of groundwater by such leachate makes the associated aquifer unreliable for domestic water supply. The current practices of MSW disposal have led to numerous environmental and social problems. Emissions of landfill leachate are due to complex sequences of physical changes associated with biological and Chemical reactions in the solid waste placed in a landfill. Therefore, leachate characteristics vary considerably from one landfill to another. The pollutants found in leachate include organic contaminants which are soluble refuse components of municipal solid waste and a variety of heavy metals. In the Western Province, most people use groundwater and surface water for their drinking purposes. This massive resource of water is not suitable for drinking and other day to day activities, since leachate contain various pathogen organisms. Thus driving the authorities responsible for water supply to convey water from far away places to the towns. In fact, leachate is the main culprit for most of the water borne diseases. In addition, to these environmental impacts, many social issues such as loss in property values, waste vehicular traffic movements and health problems are caused by the present practices.

There are major limitations in determining the levels of leachate emissions, particularly form old dumpsites. A validated monitoring and assessment procedures are being utilized and developed in many parts of the world and notably in North America. One such model is the HELP Computer based software. However, the literature review indicates that in semi-arid tropics and tropical climates, this model may not be applicable and validation is required. One of the ways is to confirm by comparing the data from lysimeters with that of the 'model' and applying these valúes to known dumpsites. Not all of the dumpsites can be monitored accurately due to limitations in resources and time. However, few of the dumpsites can be monitored and could to be representative locations for the entire district.

According to the provisions of the Local Government Act, in Sri Lanka, the Local Authorities (LA s) are responsible for collecting and proper disposal of solid waste generated by the people within its territory. The necessary provisions are given under the section 129,130 and 131 of the Municipal Council Ordinance; the section 118,119and 120 of the Urban Council Ordinance; sections 93and 94 of the Pradeshiys Sabha Act. The public health department of the Local Authorities is responsible for solid waste management in addition to many other sanitation aspects.

In Sri Lanka the required basis for integrated solid waste management strategies and the legal provisions is inadequate. The National Strategy for Solid Waste Management put forth by the Ministry of Forestry and Environment in year 2002, endorsing the need for integrated solid waste management provides the overall guidance for the management of the country's vision. The National Environmental Act of 1980 which has subsequently amended in 1988 by Act no. 56 provides the necessary legislative framework for environmental protection in the country. Although the MSW management system in the country is rather unsystematic, the required legislative framework for an appropriate waste management system is in the country.

The current practices of MSW disposal have led to numerous environmental and social problems. The main environmental impacts are the emission of Landfill Leachate and Gas due to complex sequences of physical changes associated with biological and Chemical reactions in the solid waste placed in a landfill. Unless

necessary control mechanisms are not taken to prevent release of pollutants into the environment, may cause severe problems. Pollutants found in leachate inelude organic contaminants which are soluble refuse components of decomposition producís of biodegradable fractions of municipal solid waste and a variety of heavy metáis (Reinhart, 1993 and Brown and Donnelly, 1998).

The existing waste disposal practice has threatened many ecological valuable habitats such as the conservation areas of Attidiya and Muthurajawela wetlands which are used as MSW dumping grounds. In addition to these environmental impaets many social impacts such as loss in property values, traffic congestion and health problems are caused by the present practices. Our country currently has insufficient collection and improper disposal systems of waste. Disposal of solid waste is currently done by open dumping (on land or into water).The options for the treatment disposal of household and commercial waste in the Colombo District have largely been confmed to open dumpsites, which constitutes of household and commercial wastes. Landfill is chosen as the most suitable option in most cases, because of its low cost, its availability, and its applicability for wide range of waste.

1.2 Justification

The current practices of MSW disposal have led to numerous environmental and social problems in Sri Lanka, particularly affecting the ecologically valuable habitats of conservation areas of Attidiya and Muthurajawela. The main causes are by dumpsite emissions. An in depth study of Landfill Gas (LFG) and Leachate emissions will provide the basis for managing the dumpsites to reduce these impacts. In this study, an attempt will be made to quantify the uncontrolled leachate emissions that are polluting the water bodies. Although it is difficult to monitor and analyze the leachate emissions as a "process", there are numerous studies and models to predict the pollution levels of dumpsites.

1.3 Objectives

1. To quantify and characterize leachate emissions from the selected dumpsites in the Colombo District.

2. To Determine benchmark values of leachate emissions from old and new dumpsites

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CHAPTER 2 **LITERATURE REVIEW**

2.1 Definition of Waste

Waste -The term wastes(recently given the equivalent term residuals) refers to the materials which are discarded by community activities to the environment and includes solid, and gases (Barten,1979). A Waste is a material which is thrown away or put aside as worthless. The definition of "solid waste" encompasses all of those wastes which are neither waste water discharges nor atmospheric emissions". A so called solid waste may therefore be a semi solid, solid, or even a liquid. Refuse normally means "solid wastes" but the term is avoided here. Garbage is domestic or household food wastes, mbbish is domestic non-food wastes. Municipal (Urban) solid waste is taken as including all waste collected by local authorities. Other than sewage, that is residential waste and other municipal waste, plus commercial waste. Some waste materials have other values if they are properly utilized. But if not so utilized they cause damage to the environment and are a burden to human beings. The types of waste can be categorized as

- 1. Solid wastes
- 2. Liquid wastes
- 3. Dust or Particulate matter

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4. Gaseous waste

There are two types of solid waste namely:

- Biodegradable solid waste
- Non- biodegradable solid waste

Biodegradable solid waste

Basic physicál and Chemical processes can be applied to threat waste for either refuse or disposal purposes, but biological treatments such as compost making can only be applied to the biodegradable waste. Liquid effluent and solid waste pollutant s cause pollution of water bodies such as canals, lakes, rivers, estuaries and seas.

Non-biodegradable solid waste

This type of solid wastes can not be degraded by micro-organisms. The wastes which are considered not hazardous are usually dumped on approved sites. These wastes which are categorized as hazardous (after chemical auditing), need special care in disposal. Many countries have established national systems for monitoring and control of hazardous wastes, e.g. in Sri Lanka the guidelines are developed by the Central Environmental Authority. In developed countries permission has to be obtained fforn local authorities for the disposal of wastes. There are companies which are responsible for the collection and disposal of non-hazardous wastes.

2.2 Generation of waste streams

It is important to develop a comprehensive understanding of current and future waste generation streams. So that effective policies and strategies could be formulated for managing not only urban solid wastes but also solid wastes arising from other human activities. Therefore, wastes are commonly divided into foliowing categories.

- 1. Urban (Domestic, Municipal, Commercial)
- 2. Industrial
- 3. Agricultural (Vegetation and Animal)
- 4. Mineral

The wastes from one category could influence other types of waste streams and sometimes industrial wastes too end up as urban wastes. It is very common that urban wastes pollute agricultural lands, forest and aquatic resources.

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2.3 Source of waste

2.3.1 Industrial Waste

The waste generated by many industries, such as chemicals, wastewater, oils etc., may have harmful components, which need to be handled/stored, transported and disposed through special treatments/processes. Such kind of solid waste needs institutionalized arrangements similar to that of hospital wastes.

2.3.2 Domestic and Vegetable Market Waste

Domestic waste comes ffom households, canteens, hotels etc during cooking and cleaning. It could contain inorganic matters such as oíd paper, packing material, bottles, crockery, fumishing, foliage etc and the organic matters such as vegetable waste, food grains, edible oils etc.

2.3.3 Commercial Market Waste

This is produced at business premises, shops, offices, go downs, and departmental stores. It comprises of paper, packaging material, spoiled and discarded goods, organic and inorganic matter which could sometimes be chemically reactive and hazardous.

2.3.4 Hospital Waste

Hospital wastes are often toxic and contain harmful and infectious materials. These are sub-divided, besides the general wastes (arising from the hospital kitchens), into infectious wastes, biological wastes and póinted and sharp objects. Careless and unscientific/multiple handling and transport of such wastes, their mixing with general municipal wastes and dumping into open grounds or in sanitary landfills poses serious environmental hazards and health risks for the general population *■

2.3.5 Miscellaneous Sources

Miscellaneous sources of solid waste ineludes Street sweepings comprising of public littering, road side plantation waste, debris (mud, brickbats, stones, logs etc) from cleaning, demolition, repairs and construction activity. Seasonal variations can significantly affect the nature of MSW. In the rainy season, waste retains much

moisture and is denser. In eastem and Southern India and Sri Lanka, the "king coconuts" or green coconuts, which are sold on the Street as a drink, contribute heavy and bulky ítems to the waste stream. In the same areas, during the summer months, melon rinds alone can increase the amount of waste in the commercial and market areas by 20 per cent or more.

2.4 Type of waste

2.4.1 Liquid/Solid

Waste material arising from domestic, vegetable markets, commercial, agricultural and industrial activities and public sources, comprises of solids such as vegetable/inorganic matter, inert matter like glass, metal, stones textiles etc., and liquids such as drain and sewer water, and industrial waste water etc. The composition of waste has implications for the transportation to disposal sites.

2.4.2 Degradable/Non-Degradable

Bio-mass component in the MSW is the degradable component whereas plastics and such other materials would be the non-degradable components. This aspect has particular significance in the waste management practices particularly when technologies used for converting the waste into manure or energy is introduced.

2.4.3 Reusable/Non-Reusable

Asían study which estimated that 52 .5%f Indian household's nationwide bum animal dung for heating, cooking and lighting. In one State as many as 65.5% of urban households use dung as a fuel (Bamard and Kristofferson 1985). The slum-dwellers in Asían cities demónstrate how waste materials of all kinds (wood scraps, plastics, paper, gunny bags, tins and iron scrap) are used as construction materials and for repairs. Most of these households use bottles, containers salvaged from the waste.

2.4.4 Recyclable or Non Recyclable

Recyclable materials include clothes and rags, small goods, bottles, plastics of all kinds (especially milk pouches), metals, toys, cinders from coal fires and food wastes.

Some typical examples of the informal recycling industries, are those which recycle broken glass into bottles, plastics to toys and shoes, and paper to paper board. The activities are mainly driven by the scarcity of products and low-cost of these raw materials.

2.5 Open Dump Approach

In Sri Lanka 100% of landfills are just open dumpsites. In most Asian countries today, solid waste disposal still means dumping, for reasons such as ignorance (of the health risk associated with dumping of wastes); or acceptance of the status quo due to lack of financial resources to anything better; or lack of political will, at all levels of govemment, to protect and improve pubic health and the environment. With the accelerated generation of waste caused by an ever-increasing population, urbanization and industrialization, the problem has become one of the primary urban environmental issues (Ranaweera and Trankler, 2001). Open dumping is a traditional and common disposal method at which solid waste is disposed of in a manner that do not regard environmental and health impacts, is susceptible to open buming, and is exposed to the elements, disease vectors and scavengers. These unplanned heaps and uncovered wastes, often buming and surrounded by pools of stagnated polluted water, rat and fly infections with domestic animals roaming freely and families of scavengers picking through the wastes is not only an eyesore but a great environmental hazard (Kurian Joseph et al, 2002).

2.6 Definition of Leachate

Leachate may be defined as liquid that is formed during the decomposition process and water that has percolated through solid waste and has extracted dissolved or suspended materials. Leachate is generated as a result of waste decomposition and the expulsión of liquid ffom the waste due to its own weight or compaction loading (termed primary leachate) and the percolation of water through the landfill (termed secondary leachate). Percolating water plays a significant role in leachate generation. Leachate that has entered the landfill from extemal sources, such as surface drainage, rainfall, ground water and from underground springs and the liquid produced from the

decomposition of the waste. Leachate from a decomposing landfill contains a range of inorganic and organic Chemical and its composition and characteristics are complex. Both the quantity and quality of produced leachate are important issues for landfill design.

2.6.1 Leachate characterization

Leachate from a decomposing landfill contains a range of inorganic and organic Chemicals and its compositions and characteristics are complex. The basic processes of waste decomposition affect the quality of leachate. There are three stages in the decomposition of solid waste (Me Bean et al, 1995)

Stage 1: Aerobic decomposition occurs rapidly, typically for duration of less than one month. Once available oxygen within the waste is used up (except in the vicinity of the surface), this phase of decomposition terminates.

Stage 2: Anaerobic and facultative organisms (acidogenic bacteria) hydrolyze and ferment cellulose and other putrescible materials. It produces simpler, soluble compounds such as volatile fatty acids which cause high biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) valué and ammonia.

Stage 3: Slower growing methanogenic bacteria gradually become established and start to consume simple organic compounds, producing the mixture of carbón dioxide and methane (plus various trace constituents) that constitutes landfill gas. This phase is more sensitive than stage 2.

The transition from stage 2 to stage 3 can take many years and may not be completed for decades. Sometime it is never completed (McBean et al, 1995). However, some wastes have been known to reach stage 3 in a few months. In stage 3, bacteria gradually become established and are able to remove the soluble organic compounds (mainly fatty acids) that are largely responsible for the characteristics of stage 2 leachates. Leachates generated during stage 3 are often referred to as "stabilized," but at this stage the landfill is biologically at its most active level. A dynamic equilibrium is eventually established between acetogenic and methanogenic bacteria, and wastes continué to actively decompose. Leachate produced during stage 3 is characterized by

relatively low BOD values and low ratios of BOD to COD. However, ammonia nitrogén continues to be released by the first-stage acetogenic process and is present at high levels in the leachate. Inorganic substances such as Iron, Sodium, Potassium, Sulfate, and Chloride may continue to dissolve and leach from the landfill for many years.

Because of the sequential nature of biochemical reactions in a MSW landfill, the leachate coming from a single location is highly variable over time. Likewise, leachate varies greatly from location to location as well. Some locations will be at one phase of decomposition, while others will be at a very different stage. The leachate bottom of the waste is a result of the processes that have occurred in the waste above. Although leachate quality differs ffom municipal landfill to another, common factor affecting the composition of leachate are as follows:

- i. Solid waste composition
- ii. Depth of the solid waste
- iii. Age of the landfill
- iv. Final cover condition
- v. Operation of the landfill such as water addition, leachate recirculation
- vi. waste compaction, thickness of dumped layers, rate of placement
- vii. Climate variables such as annual rainfall and ambient temperature
- viii. Hydrologic conditions in the vicinity of the landfill sites
	- ix. Conditions within the landfill such as Chemical and biological activities moisture contení. Temperature, ph, and degree of stabilization

(Ehrig, 1989; Lu et al., 1995; McGinley and Kmet, 1984; Qasim and Burchninal, 1970; Straub and Lynch, 1982):

Young landfills typically generate leachate having high biodegradable organics. As a landfill ages, its contents degrade and produce more complex organics and inorganic, that are not so readily amenable to biodegradation. Characteristics of leachate

produced, as well as differences in the quality of leachate generated, by municipal, co disposal, hazardous waste landfill have been documented(USEPA, 1988).

2.6.2 Factors affecting leachate quantity

The quantity of leachate generated is both site specific and waste specific. The amount of leachate produced is affected by precipitation, type of site, groundwater infiltration, surface water infiltration, waste composition and moisture content, preprocessing of the waste (baling or shredding), density of the waste, thickness of the waste, climate, evaporation, evapotranspiration, gas production, final cover design, and surface flow pattem.

❖ Precipitation

Precipitation represents the largest single contribution to the production of leachate. The amount of rain falling on a landfill influences leachate quantity significantly. As with all cases of infiltration, the most critical situation occurs during periods of light rainfall over a long lapse of time; short bursts of heavy rainfall during a storm result in a quick saturation of the cover material, the remainder is shed as runoff, so there is a little net infiltration. Precipitation depends on geographical location.

❖ Waste Condition

Waste condition can inelude waste composition, waste moisture content, preprocessing of the waste (baling or shredding), thickness of the waste, and density of the waste. Leachate quantity will mcrease if the waste releases pore water when squeezed because of increasing waste filling depth and density of the waste. Unsaturated waste continues to absorb water until it reaches field capacity. Waste in a State lower than its field capacity will reduce leachate formation. Sludge residues ffom sanitary treatment facilities, combined sewer system, industrial filter materials, and other quasi-solid are being permitted by many regulatory groups for disposal in MSW landfills.

Depending upon their moisture content and quantity, sludge has a major effect on leachate quantity and quality.

2.7. Colombo Metropolitan area

The Colombo metropolitan area has a resident population of 600,000 and a daily migrant labour influx from the surrounding countryside that adds another 40,000. The city Municipal Engineer has the city divided into two sections: north and south which are further sub-divided into districts. Each section is headed by a Superintending Engineer assisted by District Engineers who are responsible for all municipal functions. Drainage is handled by a separate board.

Under each District Engineer, a Cleansing Superintendent is there with two Cleansing Inspectors to assist him. The wards (47 of them) are the basic unit of cleansing management, each with a Cleansing Supervisor controlling about 100 laborers. A unique feature of the administration is the presence of women engineers and managers. Solid wastes account for 6.9 per cent of the revenue figure and health services and inspection take up 9 per cent.

Refuse generation rates are the order of 0.5 kg/person/day with a daily total of 700 tones for the city. Refuse is highly organic and wet with low levels of paper, plastics, metáis, and glass. No more than 20 per cent of daily wastes are handled by enclosed compaction vehicles which are mainly in down-town Colombo. Market wastes are handled by a fleet of side-loader refuse vehicles. Those are operated in early and late night shifts. There is no on site disposal of hospital wastes. These are double bagged and buried at the base of the landfill site. The Colombo Municipal Council provides the hospitals with a shuttle tractor and trailer for this purpose. Local by-laws have been amended to allow fines for litter offences.

A total of 4,000 laborers give a daily house-to-house service in all the areas except the places that are served by the compactor vehicles. Each person is expected to collect waste from approximately 70 families. When they have finished their collection, these laborers are then expected to engage in street sweeping, litter picking, drain cleaning, weed clearance, and similar tasks. Wages are low, no more than 7,000-10,000 rupees per month for a sanitary worker. The waste is disposed in the waste hillock of Bleomendhal and it is one of the major problems facing the authorities.

The experience in Colombo highlights the importance of both the collection and the disposal systems. Comprehensive administrative machinery for the collection by itself is not adequate. One finds a mix of technology support for transportation. Very clearly, one can observe a marked difference in the higher quality of cleaning and transportation in areas where compactors are used.

2.7.1 Leachate Quantity of Municipal Solid Waste Dumpsites in Colombo District

Sanitary land filling is the widely accepted method for municipal solid waste disposal. In developing countries, more than 90% of the landfills are unorganized open dumps leading to a number of environmental problems (Visvanathan et al., 2003).0ne of the severe problems associated with the solid waste dump sites is the infiltration of leachates and the subsequent contamination of the surrounding land and water. Examples for such events include leachate pollution (Bacterial and chemical contamination) in prívate wells around open dump sites in Colombo District. Landfill without protection liners have been reported to cause leachate contamination problems over a period of time. The leached soluble contaminants along with the washout of fines and colloids results in highly contaminated leachate. It contains a host of toxic and carcinogenic Chemicals harmful to both humans and the environment. The quality and quantity of leachates produced in landfills depend on several factors. The quantity is controlled by moisture contení, refuse age, segregation compaction, permeability, practical size, density, settlement, vegetation, cover, side walls, liner materials, gas and heat generation and transport. Quality is controlled by the pretreatment method, separation recoverable materials, leachate recirculation and locations of the sites. Therefore, it is difficult to generalize at a time.

In developed countries, proper remedial measures are used to mitígate the environmental impaets of dumpsites. Leachate quality data are useful to choose suitable remedial methods. Colombo District, having major metropolitan cities of Sri Lanka, with a population of 1.3 millions generates about 1200 tons of solid waste per day. Currently, this is dumped in Karadeyana, Kotte Senanayaka ground, Buthgama, Maharagama, Attidiya, and Muthurajawella. These sites are located in densely populated areas. The present study was aimed to assess the quality at above selected dumpsites in District of Colombo.

2.8 Problems Risen from Municipal Solid Wastes

There are four main health and environmental aspects associated with wástes as described below.

2.8.1 Presence of Human Fecal Matter

Most municipal refuse contains human fecal matter. In developed countries, its presence is largely attributable to the prevalent practice of using disposable diapers for infants and toddlers. In developing countries its presence is more likely to be attributable to inadequacies of the sanitation infrastructure and management.

2.8.2 Presence of Industrial Waste

Most municipal refuse is likely to contain some industrial waste, even in cities where private haulers are engaged to service industrial establishments. Small -scale enterprises are likely to use the municipal system for at least some of the time. Furthermore, many cities which require prívate hauling of industrial wastes allow codisposal of those same wastes within the municipal landfill. Although the level of industrial activity is much lower in developing countries than it is in developed countries, the degree of hazard associated with the waste generated is likely to be similar.

2.8.3 Atmospheric Emissions and Release of Chemical Constituents

The decomposition by-products of materials within municipal solid waste can release Chemical constituents into drainage, seepage and atmospheric emissions associated with either treatment of disposal of the refuse. In developing countries where open dumping of waste in wetlands or borrow pits is the most prevalent form of disposal, the principal pathway for these Chemicals would be leaching into ground and surface waters.

2.8.4 Continuous Buming of Dump Sites

Smoke from continuous buming of dumps creates extensive pollution in many cities of developing countries. Refuse in dumps has a high organic content and when exposed and sun-dried at the surface, spontaneous combustión occurs readily. Where methane gas is being continuously generated by anaerobio decomposition of organic substances within the refuse, fires can spread underground and go on for years.

Life expectancy in low income countries is markedly lower than in industrialized countries, averaging about 50 years for low- income countries as opposed to about 74 for industrialized countries (Cointreau, 1982). In general, the short life expectancy reflects very high death rates among children under five years of age. In the poorest regions of low income countries, half of all children are reported to die during thé first year of life. The primary cause of death is diarrhea related diseases: responsible for one quarter to one half of the deaths under age five.

Human excreta is a critical vehicle for transmission and spread of a wide range of communicable diseases, municipal refuse is often overlooked as an important pathways for the pathogens contained in excreta. The most obvious route is direct, whereby refuses collection workers, scavengers and contaminated hands in their mouths or on their food.

A less direct root occurs when vectors such as flies and cockroaches transport disease carrying agents in their intestinal tracts, subsequently contaminating food they contact. Furthermore, pathogens and irritants leading to infection may be directly inhaled as wind transports fine- grained refuse material from the open collection points or from the activities of transferring refuse from one please to another. This is most apparent in the refuse collection system in which pay loaders pick up refuse from the ground and places it in open trucks; dust from the refuse is unavoidable while residents tend to the stand around and watch the activities of the very large and noisy equipment.

Once they are excreted, the survival of pathogens in refuse is dependent on their basic nature as well as their environment. Virases tend to decrease in number following excretion; bacteria may multiply if they themselves in a nutrient-rich, conductive

environment: protozoa normally pass through an asymptomatic carrier State, with the carrier responsible for eventual transmission; parasitic worms, or helminthes generally decrease in number following excretion, except for trematodes which can multiply in their intermediate hosts. Survival of most bacteria and virases within faces appears to be up to five months, While helminth ova survival for many months. Despite this general trend, bacteria have been shown to survive for years in suitable environments; and a recent study of landfills showed faecal-indicator v-bacteria existing nine years after one municipal landfill was closed.

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2.9 Introduction to HELP Model

The Hydrologic Evaluation of Landfill Performance (HELP) computer program is a quasi-two-dimensional hydrologic model of water movement across, into, through and out of landfills. The model accepts weather, soil and design data, and uses solution techniques that account for the effects of surface storage, snowmelt, runoff, infiltration, Evapotranspiration, vegetative growth, soil moisture storage, lateral subsurface drainage, leachate recirculation, unsaturated vertical drainage, and leakage through soil, geomembrane or composite liners. Landfill systems including various combinations of vegetation, cover soils, waste cells, lateral drain layers, low permeability barrier soils, and synthetic geomembrane liners may be modeled. The program was developed to conduct water balance analysis of landfills, cover systems and solid waste disposal and containment facilities. As such, the model facilitates rapid estimation of the amounts of runoff, evapotranspiration, drainage, leachate collection and liner leakage that may be expected to result from the operation of a wide variety of landfill designs. The primary purpose of the model is to assist in the comparison of design altematives as judged by their water balances. The model, applicable to open, partially closed, and fully closed Sites, is a tool for both designers and permit writers.

2.9.1 Program Definitions, Options and Limitations

The HELP program was developed for landfill designers and regulators to provide a tool for rapid, economical screening of alternative designs. The program can be used to estímate the magnitudes of various components of the water budget, including the volume of leachate produced and the thickness of water-saturated soil (head) above liners.

The results may be used to compare the leachate production potential of altemative designs, to select and size appropriate drainage and collection systems, and to size leachate treatment facilities. The program uses weather (climatic), soil and design data to generate daily estimates of water movement across, into, through and out of landfills. To accomplish this objective and compute a water balance, daily precipitation is partitioned into surface storage (snow), snowmelt, interception, runoff, infiltration, surface evaporation, evapotranspiration from soil, subsurface moisture / storage, liner leakage (percolation), and subsurface lateral drainage to collection, removal and recirculation systems. This section discusses data requirements, nomenclature, important assumptions and limitations, and other fundamental information needed to run the program. The program documentation report (Schroeder et al., 1994) contains detailed explanations of the solution techniques employed and the Computer programs. The HELP program requires three general types of input data: weather data, soil data and design data. A summary of input options and data requirements is presented in this section. Section 4 provides step-bystep input instructions.

2.9.2 Weather Data Requirements

The weather data required in the HELP model are classified into four groups as evapotranspiration, precipitation, temperature, and solar radiation data. The HELP user may enter weather data using several options depending on the type of weather data being considered. The requirements for each weather data type are listed below. The units used are also listed next to each data type and/or variable. Customary units are based on the US Customary units, and Metric implies SI units.

• Lañdfill General Information

1. Project title

2. Landfill area *(Customary or Metric)*

3. Percentage of landfill area where runoff is possible

4. Method of initialization of moisture storage (user-specified or program initialized to near steady-State)

5. Initial snow water storage (optional, needed when moisture storage is userspecified)

• Lateral Drainage Layer Design Data

1. Maximum drainage length *(Customary or Metric)*

- 2. Drain slope, percent
- 3. Percentage of leachate collected from drainage layer that is recirculated

4. Layer to receive recirculated leachate from drainage layer

• Geomembrane Liner Data

1. Pinhole density in geomembrane liner *(Customary or Metric)*

2. Geomembrane liner installation defects *(Customary or Metric)*

3. Geomembrane liner placement quality (six available options)

4. Geomembrane liner saturated hydraulic conductivity (vapor diffusivity), cm/sec

5. Geotextile transmissivity, cm^2/sec (optional, when placed with geomembrane)

• Runoff Curve Number Information

Three methods are available to define a SCS AMC II runoff curve number.

- 1. User-specified curve number used without modification
- 2. User-specified curve number modified for surface slope and slope length
- 3. Curve number computed by HELP program based on surface slope, slope length,

4. Default soil texture, and quantity of vegetative cover

2.10 Effluent Discharge Standards in Sri Lanka

All countries have their own effluent discharge standards. Central Environmental Authority is the organization responsible for generate effluent discharge standards in Sri Lanka.

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Figure: 2.2 ludían Standards for Disposal of Landfíll Leachates into Inland Surface Water \mathbb{Z}^2

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Table 2.2 The Indian Standard for disposal of landfíll leachates into inland \sim . **surface water**

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Leachate Quality of Municipal Solid Waste Dumpsites at Chennai, India

Table2.3 Characteristics of Leachate from Perungudi Dumping Ground

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Table2.4 Characteristics of Leachate from Kodungaiyur Dumping Ground

Soil Layer (45cm)

Waste Layer (250cm)

Natural Clay

Figure 3.1: Layer arrangement of Senanayaka Dumpsite in Newalla

3.1.2 Buthgama Dumpsite in Kotte

Buthgama dumpsite lies at 6.90 North and 78.87East. The total area of this site is about 3.0 acres in which about 2.5 acres is used for dumping. The waste depth in this site is about 2.0m. Currently the dumping rate of the above site is 50t/day. Water courses are on either side of the dumpsite of the low lying lands.

Plate 3.2: Buthgama Dumpsite in Kotte

Soil Layer (30cm)

Waste Layer (200cm)

Peat

Figure 3.2: Layer arrangement of Buthgama Dumpsite in Kotte.

3.1.3. Maharagama Dumpsite

Maharagama dumpsite lies at 6.90 North and 78.87 East. It is a low lying and poorly drained area of marshy land. The total area of this site is about 5 acres in which about 4.5 acres are used for dumping. The waste depth in this site is about 3.5m. Currently the dumping rate of the above site is 80t /day.

Plate 3.3: Maharagama dumpsite in Kotte

Soil Layer (45cm)

Waste Layer (120cm)

Decomposed Layer (60 cm)

Clay (formally a paddy field)

Figure 3.3: Layer arrangement of Maharagama Dumpsite.

3.1.4 Karadeyanna Dumpsite

Karadeyanna dumpsite lies at 6.90 North and 78.87 East. It is a low lying and poorly drained area of marshy land. This land is adjacent to the alluvial low land of Bolgoda lake. The total area of this site is about 10 acres used for dumping. The waste depth in this site is about 4m. Solid wastes have been dumped since 1991 and it is operational. Currently the dumping rate of the above site is 400 t/day.

Plate 3.4: Karadeyanna dumpsite

Soil Layer (45cm)

Waste Layer (105cm)

Soil Layer (45cm)

Figure 3.4: Layer arrangement of Karadeyanna Dumpsite.

3.2 Determination of leachate quantity

In an effort to develop a method for determination of leachate quantity from various landfill sites in the District of Colombo, the Hydrologic Evaluation of Landfill Performance (HELP) model has been used to predict leachate generation in the dumpsites. The HELP model is the well configured and is very "user friendly". The model requires only daily climatologic data and wastes plus soil characteristics.

❖ Programlnput

Version 3 of the HELP program is started by the typing "HELP3" FROM THE DOS prompt in the directory where the program resides (Schroeder et al., 1994a). The **program** starts by displaying a title screen, a preface, a disclaimer, and then the main menu. The user moves from the title screen to the main menu. The user moves from the title screen to the main menú by striking any key, such as the space bar. Upon reaching the main menu. The user can select any of the following options:

- 1. Enter/Edit Weather Data,
- 2. Enter/ Edit Soil and Design Data,
- 3. Execute Simulation,
- 4. View Results,
- 5. Print Result,
- **6** . Display Guidance, and
- 7. Quit

The program automatically solicits input from the user based on the option selected. In general, the HELP model requires the following data. Some of which may be selected from the default values (Schroeder et al., 1994a):

- 1. Units,
- 2. Location,
- 3. Weather data file names,
- 4. Evapotranspiration information,
- 5. Precipitation data,
- **6** . Temperature data,

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- 7. Solar radiation data,
- 8. Soil and design data file name,
- 9. General landfill and site information,
- 10. Landfill profile and soil/ waste/geomenbrane data, and
- 11. SCS runoff curve number information.

❖ Program Output

The HELP program always produces out put consisting of the identifying labels and input data (except daily precipitation) supplied by the user, and a summary of the simulation results. Daily, monthly, and yearly output may be obtained at the option of the user.

The actual leachate generations of a known experiment can be used in view of the HELP model validation for tropical climates. Therefore, due to lack of time, the model verifications were done for the lysimeter study conducted at the University of Peradeniya. However, the model outputs were generated for a particular soil type which may or may not persists in the dumpsites that were evaluated.

3.3 Leachate Collection systems

Leachate collection systems were established at three selected locations in each of the dumpsites. Daily samples were collected during July 2006-August 2006. The samples were refrigerated at 4^oC and used for chemical analyses.

• Points of Sampling

The Maharagama site being very accessible, sampling was done; in the centre of the dumpsite (**1**), in another point, just below the filling (**2**) and the last one was taken ffom the watercourse (3). In the Senenayake dumpsite all of the three points were taken from the marsh. Similar to Maharagama, the sampling was done at Buthgama. At Karadiyanna, all of the sampling points were from the dumpsite surface.

3.4. Characterization of Leachate

Chemical parameters were determined foliowing standard methods. Leachate samples were analyzed for pH, Electrical conductivity (EC), Total Dissolved Solid (TDS), Total Suspended Solid (TSS), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Heavy metáis, Phosphate, and metáis.

3.5. Calculation Parameters

- **❖** BOD 5 (Of the leachate)
- COD (Of the leachate)
- TDS (Of the leachate)
- ❖ TSS (Of the leachate)

3.5.1 Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

BOD **5** = (BOD Sampie- BOD Blank) * D

 $BOD_5 = 5^{th}$ day BOD Value BOD_5 Sample = 5th day BOD Value of sample $BOD \, \varsigma$ Blank = 5th BOD Value of blank $D = Dilution Factor$

3.5.2 TSS-Total Suspended Solid

The known amount of leachate (V ml) was filtered though the known weight of oven dried filter paper (W1 g). This filter paper was placed into known weight of empty oven dried crucible (W2 g). Then these contents were measured (W3 g) and placed in an oven until the sample reached a constant weight (W4 g).

 $TSS = (W4-W2-W1)x 1000/V) g/L$

3.5.3 Total Nitrogen Content:

 NH_3 +H₃BO₃ = NH_4 ⁺ + H₃BO₃ : ammonia trapping

 $H^+ + H_3B\dot{O}_3$ = H_3BO_3 : titration

Number of meq distilled NH4:

 $(V - V0)ml * t$ meq/ml = $(V - V0)$ t meq

Where, $V =$ volume H_2SO_4 (HCl) added to the sample. $V0 =$ volume H_2SO_4 (HCl) added to the blank solution. t = normality of H_2SO_4 (HCl)

 $(= 0.01$ eql-1 or meq ml⁻¹)

Number of mg N present in the sample.

(V-V0) t meq $*$ 14 mg/meq $N = .14$ (V-V0)

Where : $N =$ nitrogen.

Amount of nitrogen per thousand $(gKg^{-1}$ or mgg⁻¹)

3.5.4 Organophosphate Concentration

Organophosphate, mg/L as P= C*1000/V

Where,

C-Phosphorous concentration determined by the calibration curve mg/L

V- Volume of sample analyzed in mi

Table 3.1: Methods of Test

Type of Test		Method of test	Frequency	
Leachate quality				
TSS i.		Oven Drying	3samples/ Day in one site	
ii.	TDS	Oven Drying	3 samples/ Day in one site	
iii.	Conductivity	Conductivity Meter	3 samples/Day 55	
iv.	pH	pH Meter	3samples/Day 55	
V.	BOD	Wrinkler Titration	3 samples/Day , 1	
		Method		
vi.	COD	Oxidizing Organic matter	3samples/Day ,	
i.	Total Nitrogen	By Kjeidahl method	3 samples/Day , ,	
	content			
ii.	Phosphate con.	By Spectrophotometer	3 samples/Day ,,	
iii.	Heavy Metals	Abortion $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}$ Atomic	3 samples/Day $, \,$	
		Photometer		

CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study shows the relationship among different parameters of the pH, TSS, TDS, Heavy Metals, Phosphate, EC, BOD, COD and Total Nitrogen. This has been discussed critically as follows.

Date	S.	EC	TDS	pH	$PO4$ ³	COD	BOD	BOD/CO
	No	Ms/cm	mg/l		(mg/l)	mg/l	mg/l	ratio
$17-Jul$	$\mathbf{1}$	3.72	1350	8.21	2467.5	29800	4850	0.163
	$\mathbf{2}$	4.62	1367	7.74	842.5	16800	3200	0.190
	$\overline{\mathbf{3}}$	5.85	1360	7.5	810.2	10200	3600	0.353
$19-Jul$	$\mathbf{1}$	3.65	1365	7.59	2450.5	28000	5200	0.186
	$\overline{2}$	4.2	1370	8	800.2	16000	2846	0.178
	$\overline{3}$	5.6	1364	7.45	792.6	10000	3300	0.330
21 -Jul	\mathbf{I}	2.58	1350	8.25	2617.5	29000	4900	0.169
	$\mathbf{2}$	3.99	1369	7.8	838.5	16400	3600	0.220
	3 ¹	4.58	1362	7.64	805.4	10600	2900	0.274
23 -Jul	\cdot 1	3.02	3732	8.75	1712.5	30000	4600	0.153
	2 ¹	4.65	1367	9.01	840	17400	2850	0.164
	3 ¹	5 ¹	1358	7.58	820.3	9600	3500	0.365
$25 - Jul$	$\mathbf{1}$	2.98	3520	8.98	1497.5	26200	4700	0.179
	$\overline{2}$	0.48	1364	9.46	830.1	15800	3152	0.199
	3 ¹	8.33	1351	7.32	808.45	11000	3017	0.274
$27 -$ Jul	\mathbf{I}	2.65	3540	8.75	1490	27000	5150	0.191
	$\mathbf{2}$	0.45	1350	9.4	825.6	15650	4010	0.256
	3 ¹	8.23	1340	7.3	805.2	11100	3125	0.282

Table 4.1: Characteristics of Leachate from Maharagama Dumpsite.

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Table 4.2: Heavy Metal Profile of Leachates from Maharagama Dumping ground during 2006-July measured in ppm.

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Table 4.3: Characteristics of Leachate from Senanayaka Dump site in the Newalla

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Days Sample No Cu | Ni | Pb | Zn | Ca | Cr **17-Jul 1 0.03 0.194 0 0.008 13,85 0.01 2 0.012 0 0 0 38.66 0 3 0.014 0 0 0 11.59 0 19-Jul 1 0.031 0.18 0 0.007 12.52 0.098 2 0.038 0 0 0 35.6 0 3 0.014 0 0 0 10.8 0 21-Jul 1 0.03 0.185 0 0.006 . 13.42 0.021 2 0.077 0 0 0 36.3 0 3 0.013 0 0 0 11.2 0 23-Jul 1 0.002 0.19 0 0.006 14.5 0.02 2 0.076 0 0 0 29.42 0 3 0.014 0 0 0 10.8 0 25-Jul 1 0.025 0.192 0 0.059 14.21 0.095 2 0.04 0 0 0 24.3 0 3 0.019. 0 0 0 10.12 0**

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Table 4.4: Heavy Metal Profile of Leachates from Senanayaka Dumpsite during 2006-July measured in ppm.

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Table 4.5: Characteristics of Leachate from Buthgamuwa Dumpsite in the Kotte

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Day	Sam	EC	TDS	рH	$\overline{PO_4}^{3}$	COD	BOD	BOD/COD	Total
	No	ms/cm	mg/l		(mg/l)	mg/l	mg/l	ratio	N
$19 -$ Jul	1	6.11	2598	6.11	6922.5	11600	3996	0.344	0.045
	\overline{c}	6.09	1256	6.09	3692.5	8400	2500	0.298	0.048
	3	7.38	1430	7.38	3654.5	7500	2600	0.347	0.051
$21 -$ Jul	1	18.54	2430	6.5	5840	10000	4000	0.400	0.042
	$\mathbf{2}$	10.02	1350	7.2	3525.4	8000	1850	0.231	0.056
	3	5.01	1400	7.54	2968.5	7540	2540	0.337	0.048
$23 -$ Jul	1	19.45	2400	8.62	6010.8	11000	3882	0.353	0.053
	$\mathbf{2}$	19.49	1325	7.23	4172.5	8000	2400	0.300	0.051
	3	8.06	1425	7.99	3525	7400	2550	0.345	.0.055
$25 -$ Jul	1	16.37	2520	8.53	6748.5	10400	4010	0.386	0.046
	$\mathbf{2}$	5.04	1526	6.5	4025.8	8600	2250	0.262	0.041
	3	12.3	1418	7.25	3625.1	7350	2500	0.340	0.052
$27 -$ Jul	1	16.2	2525	8.5	6750	10200	3956	0.388	0.05
	$\overline{2}$	5.02	1520	6.4	4024.3	8400	2300	0.274	0.048
	3	12	1419	7.2	3620.1	7420	2450	0.330	0.053

Table 4.7: Characteristics of Leachate from Karadeyanna Dump site

Table 4.8: Heavy Metal Profile of Leachates from Karadeyana Dumping ground during 2006-July, measured in ppm. $\overline{}$

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4.1 Comparison of dumpsite leachate Characteristic

Figure 4.1: Comparison of average electrical conductivity values of **Mahar agama, senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates**

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

Figure 4.2: Comparison of average Biochemical Oxygen Demand Values of **Maharagama, senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates**

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)

Figure 4.3: Comparison of Chemical Oxygen Demand Values of Maharagama, **senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachate**

BOD/COD Ratio

Table 4.12 Comparison of dumpsite leachates BOD/COD Ratio

Figure 4.4: Comparison of BOD/COD ratio of Maharagama, senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachate.

PH

Table 4.13Comparison of dumpsite Leachate pH

Sampling Days	PH-S	PH-B	PH-M	PH-K
$17 -$ Jul	6.97	7.24	7.82	O
–− $19 -$ Jul	7.09	7.18	7.68	6.53
$21 -$ Jul	7.05	7.52	7.9	7.08
23 -Jul	7.35	7.56	8.45	7.95
$25 -$ Jul	7.72	7.4	8.59	7.43
$27 -$ Jul	7.64	7.34	8.48	7.37

Figure 4.5: Comparison of Ph valúes Maharagama, senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates

Phosphate

Sampling	PHO-S	PHO-B	PHO-M	PHO-K
Days				
$17 -$ Jul	655.83	747.5	1373.4	Ω
$19 -$ Jul	735.2	699.3	1347.77	4756.5
$21 -$ Jul	785.45	1157.07	1420.47	4111.51
$23 -$ Jul	783.2	940.6	1124.27	4569.43
$25 -$ Jul	795.32	1564	1045.35	4799.79
$27 -$ Jul	788.8	1557.03	1040.27	4798.13

Table 4.14 Comparison of dumpsite Leachate Phosphate concentration

Figure 4.6: Comparison of phosphate concentration in Maharagama, senanayaka, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates

Total Nitrogen

Sampling	S	в	М	Κ
Days				
$17 -$ Jul	0.053	0.028	0.015	0.042
19-Jul	0.052	0.031	0.02	0.04
$21 -$ Jui	0.049	0.028	0.0148	0.038
$23 -$ Jul	0.053	0.036	0.016	0.043
$25 -$ Jul	0.193	0.048	0.021	0.051
$27 -$ Jul	0.054	0.043	0.023	0.056

Table 4.14 Comparison of Dumpsite Leachate Total Nitrogen

Figure 4.7: Comparison of total nitrogen concentration in Buthgama, Senanayaka, Maharagama and Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates

Electrical Conductivity (EC)

There was hardly any accumulation of ions from the dumpsite of Maharagama, since the sampling point in the watercourse show higher EC values than in the centre of the dumpsite or in between the first and third point. Thus, leaching takes place in a regular manner. The EC values of Senanayake cannot be compared since all of the sampling points were in the marsh. Unlike Maharagama being an old dump, the EC values of Buthgamuwa was different indicating higher EC values in the waste as compared to lower down in the watercourse. In the Karadeyanna dumpsite, leachate contained higher electrical conductivity than that of other dumpsites. Also the Senanayaka dumpsite leachate contained lowest electrical conductivity values.

Total Dissolved Solid (TDS)

At Maharagama the TDS levels were higher than Senenayaka and they both have regular discharge values. In the landfill surface of Buthgamuwa, the TDS values were relatively higher than the other two mentioned above but lower down on the middle sampling point and in the watercourse were very low. Very high values were found at the Karadeyanna.

Phosphate

Contrary to EC values, there seems to be an accumulation of phosphates on the surface of the dumpsite in Maharagama. It was so for Buthgamuwa as well with higher concentrations than Maharagama. The highest values were at Karadeyanna, which had attained 6922mg/l.

COD and BOD

Although Maharagama was an old dumpsite, the high values of COD and BOD indicate that there is active decomposition taking place on the surface. Similarly at Senenayaka, the values were high. However, at Buthgamuwa, the values were surprisingly low, similar to Karadeyanna. In all of the monitored points, there were hardly any variations between the days of sampling. Nevertheless, there have been large variations in the sampling points in the marsh of Senenayaka. In some occasions, the variations were so high from about 31000 mg/1 to 2600mg/l of COD. Notably the Senanayaka and Maharagama dumpsites, leachate contained higher average BOD values, see Figure4.2 On the contrary, the leachate of Karadeyanna dumpsite contained lower BOD values. These differences in BOD may be attributed to the variations in decompositions, meaning aerobic/anaerobic conditions prevailing of the solid waste at the sampling point of Senanayaka, Maharagama, Buthgama and Karadeyanna dumpsites.

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Variations in organic indicator ratio (BOD/COD) of the leachates obtained from Senanavaka, Buthgama, Maharagama and Karadeyanna dumpsites are presented in figure 6. BOD/COD ratios indícate the proportion of biodegradable organic matter, which decreased with age of the landfill.

Figure 4.8: Comparison of Heavy Metal concentration in Maharagama dumpsites leachates

Figure 4.9: Comparison of Heavy Metal concentration in Senanayaka Dumpsites **Leachates**

Sampling	Cu	Ni	Pb
Days			
17-Jul	0.18	0.01	0.17
19-Jul	0.1	0.04	0.08
$21 -$ Jul	0.08	0.13	0.11
$23 -$ Jul	0.1	0.06	0.11
$25 -$ Jul	0.09	0.12	0.12
27-Jul	0.08	0.15	0.14

Table 4.17 : Heavy metal profile of leachate from Buthgama Dumpsite

Figure 4.9: Comparison of Heavy Metal concentratíon in Buthgama dumpsités leachates

Sampling	Cu	Ni	Pb	Zn
Days				
$19 -$ Jul	0.233	1.195	0.989	0.045
$21 -$ Jul	0.038	1.082	1.449	0.023
23-Jul	0.046	1.052	1.405	0.624
25-Jul	0.174	1.197	1.462	0.26
$27 -$ Jul	0.164	1.232	1.325	0.421

Table 4.18: Heavy Metal Profile of Leachate from Karadeyanna Dumpsite

Figure 4.10: Comparison of Heavy Metal concentration in Karadeyanna dumpsites leachates

Heavy Metals

Copper concentrations on the surface ponds of the Maharagama dumpsite were higher than in the middle but with an increase in the watercourse. Both nickel and lead were found on the surface of the dump but not lower down in other two points of sampling. Interestingly, there seems to be an accumulation of zinc in the middle point of sampling. In other words, zinc is being held and thus leaching is not taking place of this heavy metal. As expected, slightly higher concentrations were found on the surface, lesser amount in the middle and slightly less in the watercourse.

Chromium was not detected at Maharagama. However, the levels at Senenayaka were very low as compared to Karadeyanna. Copper concentrations at Senenayaka were lower than Maharagama, but nickel concentrations were higher. Lead was totally absent in the samples tested from Senenayaka. However, calcium levels were much higher than Maharagama. Nickel concentrations in the surface leachate were 0.066, 0.133 and 0.195 respectively for Maharagama, Buthgama and Senenayaka. Like Nickel, the concentrations of lead were not found in the sampling points lower down in the middle and in the watercourse. The heavy metal concentrations at Karadeyanna were exceptionally high, except for copper in comparisoh with other locations. The chromium levels were as mush as **6 .0**

4.2 Quantifying Leachate Generations

There were number of attempts to run the HELP model and the version 3.07 may not be suitable for tropical conditions. However, it was tested for Maharagama and Karadeyanna dumpsites so that actual values could be monitored in the next phase of the study. The output indicates that 41% of the rainfall contributed to leachate for year 2002. The water balance is given in Figure 4.11. A high percentage is evaporated and the reaming is the runoff and sorption.

Figure 4.11 Water Balance in Maharagama Dumpsite 2002

Figure 4.12 Water Balance in Maharagama Dumpsite 2001

Figure 4.13 Water Balance in Karadeyanna Dumpsite 2001

4.3 General Discussion

Unorganized dumping of solid waste is predominant in developing countries like Sri Lanka and cause adverse impacts on the environment. Sources such as electronic goods, electro plating waste, painting waste, used batteries, etc., when dumped with municipal solid waste increase the heavy metals in landfills. Similarly, solid waste dumping without the separation of hazardous waste can raise toxic environmental effects. Slow leaching of these heavy metáis under acidic environment during the degradation process lead to the leachates with high metal concentrations. Since leachates are one of the potential sources of ground water pollution, mónitoring heavy metal contení in dumpsites can facilitate the recommendation of suitable remedial measures.

Karadeyanna dumpsite which contain high amount of hazardous metals such as lead, nickel, copper, chromium and zinc is a potential problem for the local authorities using the dump. Such levels of heavy metals may be due to both small and large scale industries located in urban centers often disposing their industrial and hazardous wastes along with municipal solid waste. The environmental problem with heavy metáis is that they are unaffected during degration of organic waste and have toxic effects on living organism when exceeding a certain concentration. When the compost from MSW is used as manure some heavy metals are being subjected to bioaccumulation and may cause risk to human health when transferred to the food chain. Exposure of heavy metáis may cause blood and bone disorders, kidney damage and decreased mental capacity and neurological damage.

Most of the dumpsites exceed water quality standards set by Sri Lanka and it will continué to do so for at least another ten to fifteen years. Therefore, the rehabilitation measures should be taken to curtail heavy metal contaminations and also reduce the leachate concentrations similar to values found in Chennai, see section 2 and table2.2 and table 2.3. It is very interesting to compare with the Sri Lanka water quality standards. Only two of the dumpsites manifested chromium in the leachate and at Karadeyanna the values exceeded much above the threshold level of 0.5 mg/l. When

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copper was compared, it was found that all of the dumpsites are much less than the standard. Both Karadeyanna and Buthgama, the lead concentrations were high and above the required value, while Maharagama had traces of lead and none at Senenayaka. Incredibly high amounts of nickel were present in the samples that were from Karadeyanna. They were as much as 200% above the accepted concentrations by the authorities. As mentioned above copper as well as zinc were much below the accepted norms for discharging into water bodies.

CHAPTER5

CONCLUSION

The influence of hydrodynamic properties on biochemical transformations of the dumpsites that were analyzed indícate that all of the dumpsites are polluting. Thus, the evaluations of most important indicative parameters point towards high levels of organic loading. Such loadings will influence and exert high pollution levels for a considerable duration of the life span expected of the dumpsites.

These dumps then should be rehabilitated and the degree of rehabilitation should be viewed from the potential of pollution such as high COD and BOD levels. All of the dumpsites exceed the water quality standards for these two parameters set for discharging into water bodies. Furthermore, leachate from both Buthgama and Karadeyanna far exceeds threshold levels of heavy metal concentrations, more so from the dumpsite at Karadeyanna.

Further research on monitoring is required to substantiate the findings. Also accurate predictions of the leachate generation rates are important to assess the total loading on water bodies and wetland ecosystems. The present problems of accurate predictions with the HELP model should be overcome or else another model should be developed for the tropical countries like Sri Lanka.

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APPENDIX 1

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TITLE: LEACHATE EMISSION FROM THE KARADEYANNA DUMPSITE IN 2001

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NO TE: I N I T I A L M O ISTURE CONTENT OF THE LAYERS AND SNOW WATER WERE COMPUTED AS NEARLY STEADY-STATE VALUES BY THE PROGRAM.

> **LAYER 1** $- - - - - - - -$

TYPE 1 - VERTICAL PERCOLATION LAYER **M ATERIAL TEXTURE NUMBER 6** THICKNESS = 45.00 CM **POROSITY** = 0.4530 VOL/VOL **FIELD CAPACITY** $\qquad \qquad \cong \qquad 0.1900 \text{ VOL/VOL}$ **WILTING POINT** $=$ **0.0850 VOL/VOL INITIAL SOIL WATER CONTENT =** 0.1639 **VOL/VOL** EFFECTIVE SAT. HYD. COND. = 0.720000011000E-03 CM/SEC **NOTE: SATURATED HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY IS MULTIPLIED BY**

1.80

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FOR ROOT CHANNELS IN TOP HALF OF EVAPORATIVE ZONE.

LAYER 2 ---------

TYPE 1 - VERTICAL PERCOLATION LAYER **MATERIAL TEXTURE NUMBER 19**

LAYER 3 --------

TYPE 1 - VERTICAL PERCOLATION LAYER **MATERIAL TEXTURE NUMBER 11 THICKNESS = 60.00 CM**

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GENERAL DESIGN AND EVAPORATIVE ZONE DATA ------------------------------------

NOTE: SCS RUNOFF CURVE NUMBER WAS USER-SPECIFIED.

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION AND WEATHER DATA

NOTE: EVAPOTRANSPIRATION DATA WAS OBTAINED FROM MAHARAGAMA COLOMBO

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NOTE: PRECIPITATION DATA FOR COLOMBO

WESTERN

WAS ENTERED BY THE USER.

NOTE: TEMPERATURE DATA FOR COLOMBO WAS ENTERED BY THE USER. **WESTREN**

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WESTREN

MONTHLY TOTALS (MM) FOR YEAR 2002

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AVERAGE MONTHLY VALUES (MM) FOR YEARS 2002 THROUGH 2002 -----------

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PEAK DAILY VALUES FOR YEARS 2002 THROUGH 2002

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