

Construction waste removal soon to be a phone call away

CALL CENTRE South civic body to remove debris at own expense and recycle it

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NEW DELHI: Tired of the messy construction waste lying littered in your neighbourhood?

Well, here is some good news for residents of south Delhi.

The South Delhi Municipal Corporation is all set to start a dedicated call centre for residents to report construction and demolition waste that are strewn around. Once reported, the municipal corporation will remove such debris at the earliest at its own expense.

This new service — a part of South Delhi Municipal Corporation's comprehensive sanitation action plan for which the civic body has appointed IPE Global Private Limited as consultants to design, develop, monitor and manage sanitation systems — will help residents in getting rid of their construction and demolition waste woes, officials believed.

"A call centre specifically will be set up for removal of construction and demolition waste. It will work on a need

basis. Residents who are having construction and demolition action on their properties can give the helpline a call. Trucks, to be operated by a private concessionaire, will be sent to the spot and the debris will be lifted," Amit Kumar Agarwal, director, infrastructure development of IPE Global Private Limited, told Hindustan Times.

According to him, the municipality will make the payment for the construction and demolition waste lifting, not residents. "The tender will clearly mention that the agreement is with the corporation, not the residents. After collecting the waste, the trucks will take these to the construction and demolition waste plant," Agarwal said.

At present, people dump waste on the pavements and roads. Around 4,000 tonnes of construction and demolition waste is generated in Delhi every day, out of which only 500 tonnes is the daily processing capacity of the sole construction and demolition plant in the city.

"A Supreme Court-appointed committee has identified 70 sites



The south civic body will send trucks to lift debris once it receives a call on its helpline.

SANJEEV VERMA / HT PHOTO

in north and 15 in the east civic body area for dumping of construction and demolition debris, which will finally be taken to the processing and recycling plant," a senior civic body official said.

The Delhi government has been incentivising the recycling of this waste for manufacture of roadside tiles and kerbstones that are used in the laying footpaths, road dividers, walking tracks in the parks, among other things. Levy of VAT on tiles and kerbstones made from malba has been exempted to encourage use of debris.

NOT WASTED

- **4,000 tonnes:** Construction and demolition (C&D) waste generated daily in Delhi
- **500 tonnes:** Daily processing capacity of the sole construction and demolition plant in the city
- Delhi govt incentivising the recycling of C&D waste for manufacture of roadside tiles and kerbstones