

Flats will pay more for garbage disposal

A Fee Based On Quantity In The Works

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: The BBMP wants to collect more money from citizens to dispose of garbage. Its announcements

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about the process of collecting garbage from independent homes and apartment complexes — which have left people confused — seem to have twin purposes. One, to lessen the amount of garbage that needs to be taken to

Times View

The BBMP has given apartment residents a two-month relief, all right. But given the corporation's track record, it won't be surprising to find the same situation in December: lack of a garbage-disposal infrastructure because there is no clarity on how it will be set up. The idea of collecting a cess based on the quantity generated seems logical. However, the blame for the garbage mismanagement must lie with the BBMP. Bangaloreans, likely to be penalized for no fault of theirs, would be right if they asked where the crores collected as solid waste management cess went.

landfills; and, second, to make bulk garbage generators pick up the tab for the waste they generate.

The BBMP would have been better served if it were to clearly state its intentions rather than going around in circles and issuing diktats that complicate the problem.

In a relief to the 32% of Bangaloreans who live in apartments, BBMP commissioner Rajneesh Goel has confirmed the Oct 1 deadline will be extended by two months for bulk garbage generators (those who generate 100 kg or more daily) to allow them to put in place mecha-



nisms to dispose of waste.

The BBMP is mulling how much to charge from the bulk garbage generators. At present, the garbage cess that Bangaloreans pay depends on the size of their dwellings. Thus, for residential properties, it ranges from as little as Rs 10 per

month for a 1,000 sqft area to Rs 50 for 3,001 sqft and above.

The area criterion is set to make way for one based on quantity for apartment dwellers. They could be charged on the basis of how much garbage they generate. The rate has not been fixed yet. Households will perhaps continue with the existing norm, though at some point there will be an increase in the rates they pay.

The corporation is right in saying that what it collects as cess today doesn't match the cost of disposing of garbage. However, its inability to collect the existing levy in full, or to get it increased, shouldn't be an excuse for not lifting and properly disposing of garbage.