



# पूर्णमिदं

मार्च - एप्रिल २०२६





# Bimonthly Report

## March and April 2026

### eYantran (E-waste and Plastic Waste Management)

Total Centres	: 585
Number of donors	: 3000+
Ongoing Weekly E-waste	
Collection Centers	: 42
E-waste Collection	: 23000+kg
Plastic Waste Collection	: 13000+ kg
Door to door E-waste collection	: 800+ Kg
Device Donated	: 2

### Paripoornam (Fabric Up-cycling)

Cloth Pickup	: 30
Cloth Collection	: 764 kg
Number of bulk orders	: 01
Number of new product samples	: 02
No of promotional stalls	: 08

### Volunteering Engagement

Corporate activities	: 03
College activities	: 01
General Volunteers engaged	: 25
Corporate engaged	: 47
College student engaged	: 200+

### Green Consultancy

Running Composting Units	: 5
Running Rain Water Harvesting Units	: 11
Waste processed	: 921 kg/day
Rainwater conserved	: 30,46,467 Lit/annum
Total Compost Kit Delivered in March - April	: 130

## Landfill: An Integral Component of Sustainable Solid Waste Management

In the journey of solid waste management, the ultimate goal is always to reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, and process waste scientifically before disposal. However, even after adopting the best waste management practices, a certain quantity of residual waste remains. The final destination for this non-recyclable and non-processable waste is the landfill. Thus, landfill represents the last step in the solid waste management hierarchy.

With rapid urbanisation, industrialisation, and population growth, India generates enormous quantities of municipal solid waste every day. Scientific landfill management has therefore become an essential component of sustainable urban development and environmental protection.

### What is a Landfill?

A landfill is a scientifically engineered facility designed for the safe disposal of solid waste. Waste is deposited in a controlled manner and covered with layers of soil or other material to minimize environmental and public health impacts. Unlike open dumping, modern sanitary landfills are developed with proper engineering systems such as bottom liners, leachate collection mechanisms, methane gas recovery arrangements, waste compaction methods, and environmental monitoring facilities. The objective of a landfill is not merely to dispose of waste, but to isolate it safely from the surrounding environment and reduce pollution risks.

### Difference between Landfill and Dumping Site

A landfill and an open dumping site differ significantly in terms of design, environmental protection, and operational management. A landfill is scientifically engineered and operates according to environmental regulations, whereas a dumping site is usually unmanaged and unplanned. In a landfill, waste is compacted and covered regularly to reduce odour, pest infestation, and air pollution. Protective liners and leachate collection systems help prevent groundwater contamination. Methane generated inside the landfill can also be captured and utilized for energy production.

In contrast, open dumping sites lack scientific systems and environmental safeguards. Waste remains exposed to the atmosphere, causing foul odours, uncontrolled fires, and breeding of flies, mosquitoes, and rodents. Toxic leachate from dumping sites often contaminates nearby soil and groundwater, leading to serious public health and environmental problems.

### Types of Landfills

Different types of landfills are developed depending on the nature of the waste being disposed of. Municipal solid waste landfills (sanitary landfills) are used for household and municipal waste generated from urban areas after segregation and processing. Secure landfills are specially designed for hazardous industrial waste and contain advanced containment systems to prevent environmental contamination and long-term isolation from the environment.

Another advanced form is the bioreactor landfill, where moisture and microbial activity are controlled to accelerate waste decomposition and enhance methane generation. These landfills are considered more efficient because they promote faster stabilization of waste and improve landfill gas recovery.

## **Advantages of Landfills**

One of the major advantages of landfills is that they provide a scientific and organized method for disposing of residual waste that cannot be recycled, reused, or processed further. Even the most efficient waste management systems generate a certain quantity of inert and non-recoverable waste, and landfills ensure its safe disposal without causing widespread environmental pollution.

Properly managed landfills also help reduce environmental contamination by minimizing groundwater pollution, foul odours, open burning, and pest-related problems. Through engineered systems such as liners and leachate treatment facilities, the harmful effects of waste on nearby ecosystems can be significantly controlled.

Another important advantage is methane recovery and energy generation. Organic waste decomposes anaerobically inside landfills and produces methane gas. Instead of allowing this greenhouse gas to escape into the atmosphere, it can be captured and used for generating electricity, heating, or industrial fuel applications. This transforms landfill sites into potential sources of renewable energy.

Scientific landfills can also contribute to reducing waste management costs in the long term. Uncontrolled dumping often leads to environmental damage, health-related expenses, and fire incidents that require significant public expenditure. Proper landfill planning can reduce transportation costs, improve waste handling efficiency, and minimize remediation expenses. In addition, closed landfill sites can later be reclaimed and converted into parks, green spaces, and recreational zones. Landfill operations also create employment opportunities in engineering, transportation, environmental monitoring, recycling support, and gas recovery systems.

## **When Can Landfill Be the Best Option?**

Landfills should never be considered the primary solution for waste management; however, they become essential under certain conditions. Residual waste that remains after recycling, composting, biomethanation, and other treatment methods requires safe final disposal. In such situations, sanitary landfills become the most practical and environmentally acceptable option.

Landfills are also useful in regions where advanced waste-processing infrastructure is still under development. During emergency situations such as floods, natural disasters, large quantities of contaminated or mixed waste may need immediate safe disposal. Scientifically managed landfills help prevent environmental and public health crises under such circumstances.

Therefore, within an integrated solid waste management system, landfills serve as the final and controlled disposal mechanism for unavoidable waste.

## **Landfills and Waste-to-Energy**

Landfills can play an important role in waste-to-energy generation through landfill gas recovery systems. During the decomposition of biodegradable waste, methane gas is produced under anaerobic conditions. Methane is a highly potent greenhouse gas, but when captured scientifically, it becomes a valuable energy source.

The collected landfill gas can be used to generate electricity or provide heating applications.

This not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions but also decreases dependence on conventional fossil fuels. Bioreactor landfills further improve methane generation efficiency by enhancing microbial decomposition processes.

Thus, landfill gas recovery supports both renewable energy production and climate change mitigation efforts.

## **Link between Landfills and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)**

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), established under the Kyoto Protocol, encourages projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries. Landfill gas recovery projects are recognized under CDM because they help capture methane that would otherwise escape into the atmosphere.

By collecting methane and utilizing it for energy production, landfill projects can generate carbon credits. These credits may provide additional financial support for municipalities and waste management agencies to improve infrastructure and adopt sustainable waste management practices. Landfill methane recovery projects therefore contribute not only to environmental protection but also to global climate action initiatives.

## **Problems of Landfills**

Despite their benefits, landfills also create several environmental and social challenges if not managed properly. One major issue is the large amount of land required for landfill development, particularly near urban areas where land availability is already limited and expensive.

Another serious problem is the generation of leachate. If not collected and treated properly, leachate can contaminate soil and groundwater resources. Methane emissions from unmanaged landfills also contribute significantly to climate change and increase the risk of fires and explosions.

Improperly maintained landfills produce foul odours and attract flies, rodents, mosquitoes, and stray animals, creating public health concerns for nearby communities. Fire incidents at landfill sites have become increasingly common due to methane accumulation and poor waste handling practices.

In addition, local communities often oppose landfill construction near residential areas because of concerns regarding pollution, health impacts, declining property values, and environmental degradation.

## **Status of Landfills in India**

India generates more than 160,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste every day, and a large portion of this waste still ends up in landfills or open dumping grounds. Major metropolitan cities face severe landfill-related challenges due to rapidly increasing waste generation. Many landfill sites in India have exceeded their designed capacities and have effectively turned into massive waste mountains.

The major challenges associated with landfills in India include inadequate segregation at source, excessive dependence on dumping, and lack of scientific landfill engineering, poor methane recovery systems, insufficient monitoring, and weak implementation of waste management regulations.

Improvement in landfill management in India requires a comprehensive and integrated

approach. The first and most important step is segregation of waste at source. Proper separation of wet, dry, recyclable, and hazardous waste can significantly reduce the amount of waste reaching landfills.

Municipalities should promote recycling, composting, biomethanation, and waste-to-energy technologies to minimize landfill dependency. Only residual and inert waste should be directed toward landfills. Scientific sanitary landfill standards prescribed under the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 must be strictly implemented for all new landfill projects.

Old dumping grounds should undergo biomining and legacy waste remediation to recover reusable materials and reclaim land resources. Methane capture systems should also be installed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and generate renewable energy.

Public participation is equally important. Citizens must actively support waste segregation, responsible consumption, and sustainable waste practices. Urban local bodies need stronger technical expertise, financial resources, environmental monitoring systems, and strict regulatory enforcement to ensure long-term improvement in landfill management.

## Conclusion

Landfills are an unavoidable component of modern solid waste management systems, but they should always remain the final option after waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and recovery. A scientific landfill is different from an open dumping site because it is designed to minimize environmental pollution and public health risks.

When properly planned and managed, landfills can support methane recovery, renewable energy generation, greenhouse gas reduction, and climate action initiatives such as the Clean Development Mechanism. However, poorly managed landfills can create severe environmental and social problems.

The future of landfill management lies in integrated systems where only minimal residual waste finally reaches the landfill, completing the solid waste management journey in a responsible and environmentally sustainable manner.

**Ms. Anushka Kajbaje**  
Director,  
Poornam Ecovision Foundation



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### PEHEL 2026

Pehel 2026, held on 1st March in Pune, marked a significant milestone in our organization's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible waste management. This large-scale plastic and e-waste awareness and collection drive witnessed overwhelming community participation, with more than 3,000 donors coming forward to contribute towards a cleaner and greener future. The drive was organized in collaboration with Pune Municipal Corporation, Cummins, KPIT, MNGL and Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative.

The event was formally inaugurated at Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Garden by officials from the Pune Municipal Corporation. The inauguration ceremony highlighted the importance of collaborative action between civic authorities and citizens in addressing the growing challenges of waste management. The presence and support of PMC officials added significance to the initiative and reinforced the city's commitment to sustainable environmental practices.

A remarkable network of 585 collection points was set up across the city, ensuring accessibility and convenience for participants from diverse localities. The initiative successfully collected over 18 tons of e-waste and 13 tons of plastic waste, reflecting both the scale of the effort and the growing environmental consciousness among citizens.

Beyond collection, Pehel 2026 played a crucial role in educating the public about the importance of proper waste segregation, recycling, and the environmental hazards posed by improper disposal of electronic and plastic waste. The event not only helped divert substantial waste from landfills but also strengthened community engagement and collective responsibility towards sustainability.

Overall, Pehel 2026 stands as a powerful example of how coordinated efforts, awareness, and community participation can drive meaningful environmental impact.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Bicholim (Goa) E- waste Collection Drive

A city-wide e-waste collection drive was successfully organized in Bicholim (Goa) on Sunday, 19 April, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM across the Bicholim Municipal Council area in Goa, with the aim of promoting responsible disposal of electronic waste and building environmental awareness among citizens. The initiative was jointly conducted by Poornam Ecovision Foundation, Paryavaran Sanrakshan Gatividhi, and several local social organizations.



The rapid rise in electronic consumption has made e-waste one of the fastest-growing waste streams posing serious environmental and health risks. The drive provided citizens with an accessible and safe way to dispose of their unused or discarded electronic items. All collected e-waste was ensured to be processed through responsible recycling channels.

A total of 9 collection centers were set up and remained operational throughout the drive, enabling smooth participation from residents across the area. Citizens of Bicholim actively contributed by gathering and depositing their e-waste at the nearest collection points. The initiative demonstrated how every small effort, when combined through collective action, can significantly contribute toward safeguarding the environment for future generations.

### Sneh Melava

The Snemehmelava 2026, organized by Poornam Ecovision Foundation, was successfully conducted in a vibrant and joyful environment. This volunteer gathering, centered around an eco-conscious message, proved to be truly inspiring for all attendees. The event was held at DES English School on Tilak Road in the evening at 5 pm to 7 pm.

On this special occasion, an engaging Bharatanatyam dance performance around the important theme of plastic pollution was held. Renowned Bharatanatyam artist Ms. Niyati Visal captivated the audience with her graceful expressions and powerful presentation, effectively conveying the pressing issue of plastic pollution and its environmental impact.

The event was graced by Mr. Sachin Chougule, Complete Seat Engineering Manager and CSR Head at Forvia, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he shared valuable insights and experiences from CSR initiatives focused on environmental conservation.

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Volunteers contributing to Poornam Ecovision's initiatives shared their experiences and encouraged wider participation in such meaningful work. Ms. Shweta Patwardhan highlighted various ways in which new volunteers can get involved with the organization. The event was skillfully anchored by Ms. Ashwini Khaire.

The program witnessed the presence of over 120 volunteers and supporters, all of whom appreciated the initiative. As the financial year begins, the event serves as a strong source of motivation to continue working with renewed energy and commitment.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone whose support and participation made this gathering truly enriching.



## PEF Employee Training Program

A comprehensive 3-day employee training program was successfully conducted at Indradhanushya Hall and Veer Baji Pasalkar Sabhagruha for employees of Poornam Ecovision Foundation (PEF). The program was designed to provide a well-rounded learning experience by integrating organizational processes, personal development, and technical knowledge.

The training began with sessions on PEF project SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), which provided employees with a clear understanding of internal processes and guidelines. This segment aimed to ensure consistency, efficiency, and improved execution of projects across the organization.

Following this, the program included soft skills development sessions focused on enhancing communication, teamwork, and overall professional effectiveness. These sessions helped build confidence, improve interpersonal interactions, and strengthen workplace collaboration among employees. These sessions were conducted by Trainers Komal and Nilesh Dhayakar.

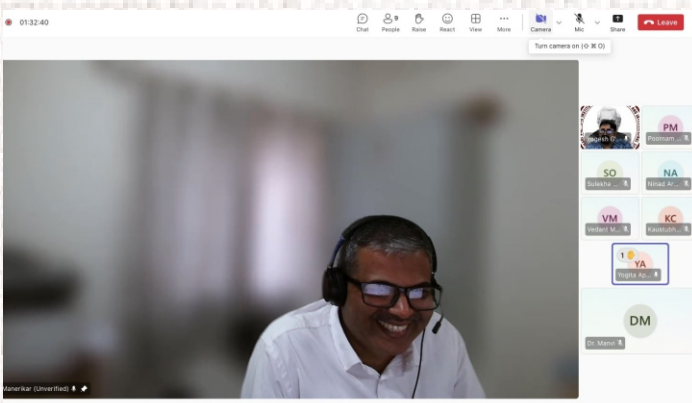
The final component of the training was the "Know Your Waste" module, which was organized by the P-CARE Department. This segment aimed to strengthen employee's understanding of waste management from basic to advanced concepts while deepening their appreciation of the importance of their work. As part of this module, thematic sessions were conducted on 28th April and 29th April by Dr. Manvi Singh, Research Officer (P-CARE), focusing on Plastic Waste and E-Waste, respectively. These sessions provided valuable insights into various waste streams, associated challenges, and sustainable management practices.

The program concluded on 30th April with a recap and reflection session by Dr. Rajesh Manerikar, CEO of Poornam Ecovision Foundation. He reinforced the key learnings from all sessions and encouraged participants to effectively apply their knowledge in both their professional roles and daily lives, with a strong emphasis on sustainability and continuous improvement. The training was concluded by Mr. Raviji Shinganapurkar, Secretary, Swanand.



## Green Audit Service Launch

On the occasion of Earth Day 2026 – themed “Our Power, Our Planet” – Poornam Ecovision Foundation proudly announced the official launch of its Green Audit & Swachhta Assessment Services under the P-CARE Initiative, specially designed for educational institutions and corporate offices. The launch reflected a timely response to the urgent need for institutions to move beyond awareness and take measurable, accountable, and lasting environmental action. Through this initiative, the foundation introduced comprehensive Green Audit Services, offering detailed environmental assessments covering key areas such as water and waste management, energy efficiency, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable transportation. In addition, the Swachhta Assessment Services were rolled out to support organizations in building stronger hygiene systems, improving cleanliness standards, and creating healthier workspaces and campuses.



## Plastic Panel Discussion

Dr. Rajesh Manerikar, CEO of Poornam Ecovision Foundation, shared his valuable insights at the Plastics Panel Discussion, emphasizing that responsible behavior towards waste significantly eases the efforts of recyclers and strengthens the overall recycling industry. He highlighted the importance of conscious segregation, proper disposal practices, and active citizen participation in building an efficient waste management ecosystem.

He further reiterated that the organization’s work continues to focus strongly at the grassroots level, ensuring that citizens have access to the right facilities and proper guidance to manage waste effectively. The discussion reinforced the belief that real and lasting change begins from the ground level, where informed communities play a crucial role in driving sustainable practices forward.



## Corporate Awareness sessions

Visteon India offices in Goa and Pune recently hosted Composting Awareness Sessions on 24th April and 30th April, respectively, engaging over 40 participants in hands-on learning focused on sustainable waste management practices.

The sessions were organized by Poornam Ecovision Foundation. The Goa session was led by guest speaker Mr. Vasudev Chari, while the Pune session featured Mr. Mayur Bhave and Mr. Mangal Akole as guest speakers.

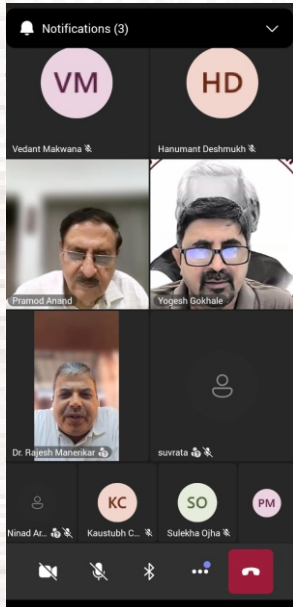
Participants were introduced to the Foundation's initiatives, followed by a series of interactive and engaging activities. These included a home gardening session with seed distribution, a paper bag making exercise promoting sustainable alternatives to plastic, and an Earth Day-themed session focusing on soil health and composting practices.

The enthusiastic participation across both locations reflected a growing awareness and interest among employees in adopting practical and sustainable environmental practices in their daily lives. Overall, the sessions served as an effective platform for knowledge sharing, hands-on learning, and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.

On the occasion of Earth Day 2026, the Centre for Applied Research in Environment (P-CARE), a research-based center of Poornam Ecovision Foundation, organized two composting awareness sessions on 22 April 2026 at different locations of ZS Associates, engaging over 60 participants. Led by experts Snehal Gokhale and Anushka Kajbaje, the sessions highlighted the importance of composting, sustainable waste management practices, and included live demonstrations of individual compost kits, promoting practical learning and encouraging behavioural change towards evidence-based sustainability practices.



## Certificate Course on “Sustainable Development Goals The Indian Context”



The Online Certificate Course on “Sustainable Development Goals: The Indian Context” was inaugurated on 19th March 2026 through a collaborative initiative between the Poornam Ecovision Foundation and the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Policy Research and International Studies (AIPRIS), The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda (MSU).

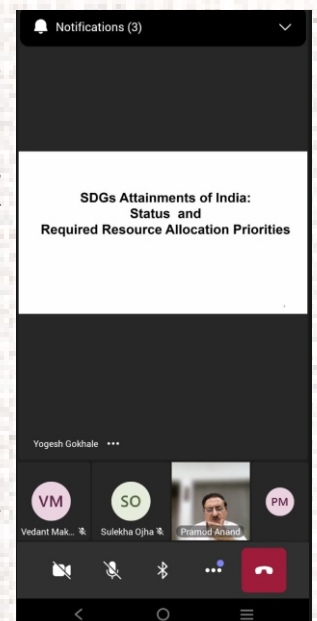
The inaugural session commenced with an insightful session by Mr. Pramod Anand on the importance and relevance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Indian context. The session set the tone for the course by highlighting the need for collective action towards sustainable and inclusive development.

The entire course was efficiently coordinated by Mr. Yogesh Gokhale from MSU, whose efforts ensured the smooth conduct of the program.

During the course, Dr. Rajesh Manerikar, CEO of Poornam Ecovision Foundation, conducted an engaging and interactive session on the 5R Framework, emphasizing practical approaches towards sustainability, responsible consumption, and waste reduction.

The program brought together academicians, researchers, students, development professionals, and interested citizens to deepen their understanding of the 17 SDGs and their implementation in India. Key themes covered during the course included SDG integration into flagship government schemes, circular economy practices, plastic waste management initiatives.

Through this collaboration, Poornam Ecovision Foundation and MSU reaffirmed their shared commitment towards promoting sustainability education, policy awareness, and action-oriented learning for a better future.



## Upcoming Events

### **Plastic collection drive in Nashik and PCMC schools under PEHEL initiative.**

Plastic collection drives will be conducted across Nashik and PCMC's schools. These drives will aim to engage students and local communities in responsible waste disposal practices while raising awareness about single use plastic pollution and its environmental impact

The initiative will focus on setting up accessible collection points within schools, encouraging participation through awareness sessions, and ensuring proper segregation and channelization of collected plastic waste for recycling. By involving young individuals and academic institutions, it will promote long-term behavioral change and strengthen community-driven sustainability efforts.

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