

### The Solutions of Disposing the Waste

The disposal of Hong Kong's domestic and commercial waste has become a big issue recently. Hong Kong's waste arising has exceeded the expected amount. At the time the three-landfill strategy was implemented, it was forecasted that the daily amount of waste to be disposed of at landfills would rise from 12500 tonnes in 1989 to 16700 tonnes by 2011. Should this trend continue, the landfills will reach the full capacity by 2015, instead of lasting until 2020 as the government were designed for.

Domestic waste includes households and institutional premises. Waste collected from residential buildings, public litter bins, streets and country parks also come under this category. Commercial waste includes shop, restaurants, hotels, offices and markets in private housing estates.

First, government should assist the waste collectors to collect the commercial waste. Most of the commercial waste is collected by private waste collector. It is necessary that government provides some subsidy for them to maintain service.

Second, we should target to educate the young generation by starting at schools. A key agent of change is the education sector, where our future generation is nurtured. School curriculum plays an important role in developing responsible behavior, which can be promoted through moral and civic education, environmental education as well as subjects such as social studies, Liberal Studies.

Third, government launched programme on source separation of domestic waste in housing estate. This programme aimed at making it more convenient for residents to separate domestic waste at source by encouraging and assisting property management companies to provide waste separation facilities on each floor of all buildings. Also, it aimed at expanding the types of recyclables to be collected to include all types of plastics, metals, paper, clothing and electrical products.

All in all, the solutions of disposal of domestic and commercial waste need self-discipline of businesses and residents. They have to be rigorous and initiative. Otherwise, the solutions are unworkable.