

# Waste and Garbage Segregation Vending Machine

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**Abstract:** *Actually, people keep dumping trash incorrectly, which is a serious deterrent to the environment and public health. To top it, we made a vending machine that, with the help of sensors, auto-sorts different kinds of garbage. - a proximity sensor detects if there is something nearby - without touching, it is cleaner to use. - an IR sensor is used to identify when the trash has been deposited. - a soil moisture sensor can differentiate between dry and wet waste by measuring the degree of moisture in the waste. After the item is recognized, the microcontroller processes the information and instructs the motors to move the trash to the correct bin. Besides, the machine issues points or coupons to users - these little treats will push them to do things right. It reduces the need for human work, encourages people to sort their waste even before it is thrown in pests, and help green systems to develop. Building it is cheap, and anybody can use it easily. Besides, it successfully operates in schools, shopping centres, and modern cities. Also, without giving it a second thought, people are able to see, by their actions, how their actions help.*

**Keywords:** *dumping trash*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Proper waste management is one of the major issues of modern times. Due to rapid urbanization, population growth, and higher levels of consumption, a huge amount of mixed waste is generated each day. Without proper source segregation, it is difficult to recycle and reuse materials in an efficient manner. Combining biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste is the main factor behind pollution, bad Odor, spread of diseases, and also a source of trouble in disposal. Therefore, automatic waste segregation systems have become a necessity for cleanliness and sustainable waste management support. The Waste and Garbage Segregation Vending Machine essentially is a conveyor system equipped with different sensors and microcontroller to efficiently segregate waste types without any human intervention. These machines sort waste materials like wet waste, dry waste, and recyclable items in an automatic manner. The major purpose of this project is to lessen manual handling of garbage, enhance recycling efficacy, and foster smart waste management through usage of such systems in public spaces like schools colleges railway stations, and shopping malls etc. For the purposes of this system, various sensors like proximity sensor, soil sensor, and IR sensor are employed for identification and classification of different types of waste. Proximity sensor is primarily employed for detecting the presence of an object when it is waste that has been inserted into the machine. Its main function is to switch on the system and identify materials like metal or plastic on the basis of sensing technology. The IR sensor, on the other hand, is utilized to spot the movement or location of the waste inside the machine. It is helpful in operating the conveyor or the guiding mechanism and, at the same time, makes sure that the waste is properly taken to the suitable bin. The IR sensor picks up motion or position of waste inside the machine. Now, it runs the conveyor or guides the object and ensures waste goes to the right bin. The soil sensor checks moisture to know if the material is wet or dry. Now, it now detects food scraps and compostable items. When waste is dropped in, the IR sensor picks it up first. The system activates immediately. Moisture level helps decide how to process the waste. The proximity sensor figures out what kind of material it's. Plus, plus, the soil sensor checks moisture. Plus, the microcontroller gets all that data and assigns a category. Based on that, a motor or servo moves the waste to a bin, wet, dry, or recyclable. The system cuts down on



manual work and gives better results in sorting waste. The Waste and Garbage Segregation Vending Machine is a tool that will help in awakening people's environmental awareness and at the same time, encourage them to discharge waste properly. This will also be a way to localize waste management such that waste segregation is done at the point of origin. One of the consequences of this work is the reduction of landfill dependence and creation of more recycling areas.

### **Background and Motivation**

Background and motivation The rapid urbanization and population growth have necessitated a better management system for solid waste, especially in developing countries like India. When people throw their garbage improperly, not only the environment gets polluted but also viruses will spread and the recycling system will become inefficient. One of the big problems is that the recyclable wastes, non-recyclable wastes, and hazardous wastes get all mixed together because there is no segregation done at the waste source. Most of the time, manual segregation has been the cornerstone of traditional waste management which is not only time consuming but is also unhygienic and mistake-prone. This has created problems for the recycling industries and has also contributed to the increase in the amount of waste stored in landfills. Nowadays, technologies like Internet of Things and Embedded Systems are being used for finding solutions to these problems. For example, a smart waste segregation vending machine is a concept that uses sensors like proximity sensor to detect waste objects, IR sensors for identifying the characteristics and movements of objects and soil (moisture) sensors for identifying watery (biodegradable) and dry waste. When all these sensors are combined together, the system can really talk to itself and waste into different bins for different types of waste. Furthermore, the system can be designed to open the vending mechanism to reward the users with points or coupons, which will change the behaviour of people to a more responsible way of waste disposal.

## **II. LITERATURE SURVEY**

1. Smart Waste Management System using Internet of Things and RFID Technology This paper looks for ways different cities have developed to manage the growing amount of waste produced. Burning, and disposing of waste, is done massively in all countries. Waste Disposal. prior to treatment will be very useful in saving both money and the environment. Waste is to be packaged in plastic and non-plastic. Since all types of plastic do not decompose and some waste decomposes, daily waste separation is a must.
2. Automatic Waste Sorting Machine Using Radio Frequency Identification For waste management solutions, providers and system integrators the focus on efficiency, economy and traceability is critical and the very important factor to look for. Radio frequency identification (RFID) is used for veryeffective waste collection, disposal and management and offers the best and unique benefits to municipalities, waste removal service providers and their residential and commercial clients.
3. Smart Waste Management System using RFID  
The Smart Waste Management System is a device that uses RFID technology to reward people for disposing of waste. This idea aims to address waste management problems in schools, colleges, and homes. It also helps children and students develop the habit of discarding their waste properly in the refuse bins.
4. IoT-Enhanced Recycling: A Smart Low-Cost Solution for Sustainable Plastic Waste Management Encouraging people in our communities to adopt environmentally friendly practices starts with enhancing recycling initiatives. Research conducted by the Gulf Petrochemicals and Chemicals Association (GPCA) found that 4% plastic recycling in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is even lower than that of Europe, which has a recycling rate of 15%. This paper examines the initiatives in the UAE to support increasing plastic recycling, including building a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM).
5. Deep Learning Model for Improving Automated Recycling Machine with Incentive Mechanisms



An Automated Recycling Machine (ARM) is an interactive tool that promotes a recycling culture. by giving rewards to users who deposit recyclable items. For this to work effectively, the machine needs a material validation module to correctly identify the recyclable items deposited.

### **Background of the research**

Waste pollution grows with urbanization and population rise. Mixing wet and dry trash makes recycling hard - pollution, health risks, landfill overload follow. Dry waste and organic material tangled together? Recycling fails. Manual sorting still rules the field - slow, messy, dangerous for workers. Awareness drives don't always reach people's daily habits. Still, sensor tech is changing things. Proximity sensors, infrared, soil moisture, all can sense what's in bins. They detect presence, distance, how wet waste is. A smart segregation machine uses these tools to sort trash on the fly. It offers real-time feedback or rewards to users. So the system promotes better separation through engagement Accuracy improves. Handling becomes cleaner and faster. Users learn through interaction - no more guessing what goes where.

### **III. PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Improper waste disposal and the absence of waste segregation at the source have been causing significant environmental issues. Most people throw away recyclable and non-recyclable waste together which not only complicates the processes of recycling but also enhances the pollution from landfills. Waste segregation manually is a time-consuming, unhygienic way of working and requires additional labour. This situation is responsible for mismanagement of waste, presenting health hazards, and harming the environment. An automated system is required that will motivate the people to segregate the waste in the right and effective way. A waste and garbage segregation vending machine can be one of the solutions to the problem as it will recognize and separate different types of waste such as plastic, metal, and paper on its own. Also, the system may give rewards to the users thus incentivizing responsible disposal habits and they can be an effective way of inculcating good waste disposal habits in the users. This will be a move towards pollution reduction, better recycling as well as smart city waste management initiatives.

### **IV. OBJECTIVES**

#### 1. Automatic Waste Segregation

To build system that automatically differentiate waste into wet and dry categories by using different sensors like proximity, IR and soil (moisture) sensors.

#### 2. Reduce Human Effort

To lessen the handling of waste manually as well as the workload of sanitation workers.

#### 3. Improve Hygiene and Safety

By not having direct human contact with waste, you will be able to prevent the spreading of germs and keeping the place clean.

#### 4. Promote Smart Waste Management

Through correct segregation at the source, the waste collection, recycling and disposal will be more efficient.

#### 5. Sensor-Based Detection System

To install:

Proximity sensor detect user interaction or waste insertion

IR sensor presence/type detection of an object

Soil (moisture) sensor identify wet (organic) waste

#### 6. Encourage Public Participation

To inspire people to dispose of waste properly, maybe by using a vending/reward mechanism (like coupons or points).

#### 7. Environment Protection

To limit the amount of waste going to the landfill and improve recycling efficiency to achieve a cleaner environment.



#### 8. Develop a Low-Cost Smart System

To design a cheap and effective system for the implementation of knowledge in places like schools, parks, and stations or other public.

#### **Motivation**

Motivation comes from making waste separation easier at the start. People stop ending up in landfills Recycling picks up faster. Incentives get folks involved. Less human contact means better hygiene and safety. Swachh Bharat Mission goals are supported. Thing is, clean cities need action now. We're not just talking about theory here.

The motivation behind this project includes:

Helping to keep the environment clean by making waste segregation at source easier and more effective.

Less use of landfills and recycling done better.

Using combination of rewards and punishments to get the public involved.

Less manual handling of waste which leads to better hygiene and safety.

Backing initiatives such as Swachh Bharat Mission which focus on making cities cleaner and more sustainable.

#### **V. PROPOSED SYSTEM**

The machine separates trash automatically into wet, dry, and recyclable bins. A user drops waste into the slot and a proximity sensor picks it up right away. An infrared sensor checks if it's solid, like plastic, paper, or metal - and confirms it isn't just dust. A soil moisture sensor measures how wet it is. If moisture hits 60%, it is labelled wet waste - like fruit peels or food scraps. If below 30%, it's dry. The microcontroller runs all that data through its logic and sends signals to a motorized flap or conveyor belt that slides the item into the correct bin. There's a small screen that shows what kind of waste was placed in. Sometimes it gives points or a coupon to motivate people to do the right thing. It cuts down on worker labour, keeps public areas cleaner, and helps people act more responsibly with their trash, at least in theory. So the system doesn't handle mixed materials well. Hard to ignore how limited its accuracy is when things aren't pure.

#### **VI. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**

The waste and garbage segregation vending machine project is all about creating an automated system that will lead to the efficient disposal of waste materials through effective usage of various sensors such as proximity, soil (moisture), and IR sensors. This project primarily intends to not only minimize human involvement in waste sorting but also to increase hygienic conditions through incentivizing proper waste disposal by users. A proximity sensor senses user or waste presence and turns on the system; a soil sensor analyses moisture level for identifying wet versus dry wastes. An IR sensor assists in locating presence as well as movements of waste inside the machine to guarantee proper functioning of sorting devices. Such a system can be placed where lots of people come and go in order to fostering cleanliness and reduce littering such as school's malls transportation hubs paving ways for smart city and recycling improvement. Furthermore, there is still room for this project to incorporate more features like IoT integration, a reward system, and AI-based waste classification, thus making it a highly adaptable and environmentally friendly solution.



**VII. BLOCK DIAGRAM & BLOCK DIAGRAM DESCRIPTION**  
**COMPONENT INTERCONNECTION BLOCK DIAGRAM**

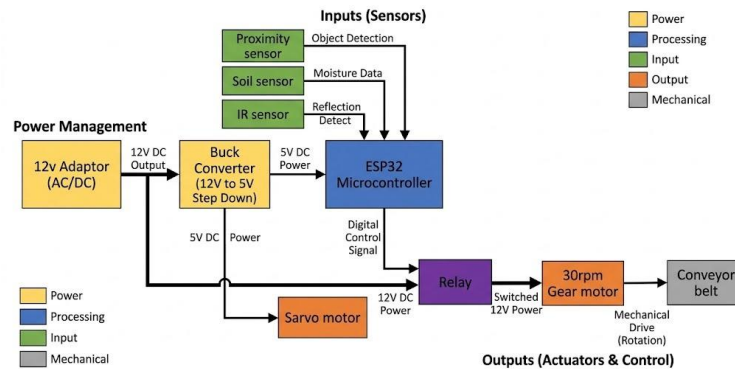


Fig. (1)

The Smart Waste Segregation System that has been proposed is a working method of system using sensors combined with automated mechanisms to separate the waste into three categories, namely wet waste, metallic waste and non-metallic waste. In contrast to the earlier RFID-based system that was described in your paper, this new system uses physical property detection in real time, thereby making it more feasible and effective.

Upon switching ON the system, the ESP32 microcontroller will activate the sensors and actuators, such as the IR sensor, soil moisture sensor, proximity sensor, servo motor, and conveyor mechanism. The conveyor belt will not move until waste is detected.

At first, when a piece of waste is put on the conveyor belt, the IR sensor will recognize the object. This action will make the ESP32 to turn on the conveyor belt with the help of the relay-controlled 30 RPM gear motor. After that, the waste continues with the different sensing phases.

The first phase is the detection of wet waste with the soil moisture sensor. The sensor will determine the moisture level of the waste. If the moisture level goes beyond a set threshold, the ESP32 will decide that the waste is wet waste. At the same time, the servo motor will turn to an angle that has been set (e. g. 30), thereby guiding the waste into the wet waste bin.

If the waste is not found to be wet, it moves to the next step where the proximity sensor is engaged for detecting metal objects. Upon metal identification, ESP32 would instruct the servo to turn to another position (say, 150) so as to allow the waste Red Tin Unit to fall into metallic bin.

In case the waste fails both the conditions (wet and metallic), it is by default considered as non-metallic. Here, the servo motor keeps its original position (like 90) and the waste is thrown into the non-metallic bin.

Once the segregation is completed, conveyor resets itself and the system is ready for the next cycle. The whole process is done automatically, quickly and with very little human intervention so as to keep waste management hygienic and efficient.



**VIII. FLOWCHART OF THE PROJECT**

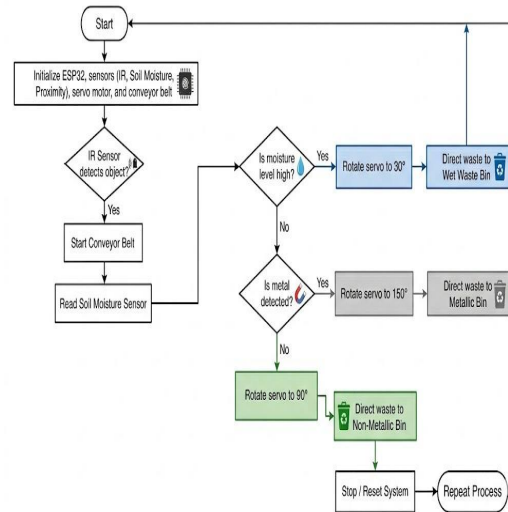


Fig.(2)

**IX. COMPONENT REQUIRED**

**Proximity Sensor**

A proximity sensor is a kind of contactless electronic device that identify the presence of objects nearby by sending and receiving signals such as infrared or ultrasonic waves. It converts this detection to an electrical signal that can be utilized by control systems for automation. In a waste and garbage segregation vending machine, a proximity sensor is one of the key components that assist in identifying the throw-in of waste and the triggering of the sorting mechanism. Apart from this, the sensor makes the system more accurate, enables it to work automatically, and reduces energy consumption by only activating the system when it is necessary.

**Soil Sensor**

A soil sensor is a gadget that measures the characteristics of the soil such as moisture level by sensing the variations in electrical properties. It is useful in keeping track of soil status for enhancing control and automation. In this case, a soil sensor is employed to identify wet (biodegradable) waste. With the help of this, segregating organic and dry waste will be a reality which will in turn lead to better efficiency and waste management.

**Servo Motor**

A servo motor is a turning device used for exact control of the angle of position, speed, and movement. It takes a control signal (PWM) to move to a certain angle, normally between 0 and 180. Servo motor in a waste segregation vending machine is used for opening or closing the flaps or gates which guide various types of waste to different bins. This enables the sorting of materials to be done accurately and automatically.

**30 RPM Gear Motor**

A 30 RPM gear motor is a motor fitted with a gearbox that produces a speed of 30 revolutions per minute. It is mostly ideal for scenarios where one wants to combine low speed with high torque. The motor is capable of producing a high torque output while its speed is regulated. In a waste segregation vending machine, it generally supports the electrical operation of conveyor belts or the spinning of bins. In this, it makes the sorting of wastes not only simple but also efficient.



### **Conveyor Belt**

A conveyor belt means a set of equipment's moving continuously a belt for transporting things from one point to another. Besides, one of its common applications is to automate the handling of items. The conveyor belt in the waste segregation vending machine moves waste from the intake section toward the various sensors and sorting units. The belt guarantees that the waste is being transported in a smooth, continuous, and orderly manner for efficient segregation.

### **IR Sensor**

An IR (Infrared) sensor is a device that is able to detect the presence of a certain object through the emission and reception of IR rays. It is basically a matter of reflecting IR rays when the object is close by. In a waste segregation vending machine, the IR sensor detects whether waste is present at the input point. By means of this, the system is activated and the sorting process begins automatically.

### **ESP32**

The ESP32 is a chip with extremely good processing power, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth being integrated in it as well, it is the choice for many IoT and automation enthusiasts. It has the ability to interact with the environment by taking input from sensors and commanding output through motors and other displays. When being a waste segregating vending machine, the ESP32 takes the central role of a controller that obtains data from the sensors and commands the sorting mechanism. Besides, it enables functionalities such as remote monitoring and data logging.

### **12v Adapter**

12V adapter basically is a device that converts AC main power into a single 12V DC output. It is the usual source of power for electronic parts and gadgets. 12V adapter in a waste segregation vending machine is the primary power source for the items like motors, conveyor belts, and controllers. It ensures a very reliable and uninterrupted operation of the entire system.

### **Buck Converter**

A buck converter which is a (DC-DC step-down converter) is a type of electronic circuit that can very substantially convert a higher DC voltage to a lower one. It is done by switching and storing the energy depending on the change of state of components such as inductor, transistor and capacitor. For instance, in the waste segregation vending machine, a buck converter serves the purpose of providing a continuous and required voltage to the parts such as sensors, ESP32, and motors. This not only guarantees the safe functioning of the entire system but also shields it from voltage fluctuations.

### **Relay**

A relay is basically an electric switch that is operated with electricity. It enables a way that a low-power signal can control high-power devices. The inner workings of a relay are based on an electromagnet that opens or closes the contacts in the circuit. In a waste segregation vending machine, the relay is the component that connects the microcontroller with other components such as motors and conveyor belts and allows it to control them in a safe manner. That makes it possible to turn on and off the devices that require high-voltage without opening those devices directly to the control circuit

## **X. WORKING PRINCIPLE**

The Smart Waste Segregation System that has been proposed is a working method of system using sensors combined with automated mechanisms to separate the waste into three categories, namely wet waste, metallic waste and non-



metallic waste. In contrast to the earlier RFID-based system that was described in your paper, this new system uses physical property detection in real time, thereby making it more feasible and effective.

**Hardware Images**

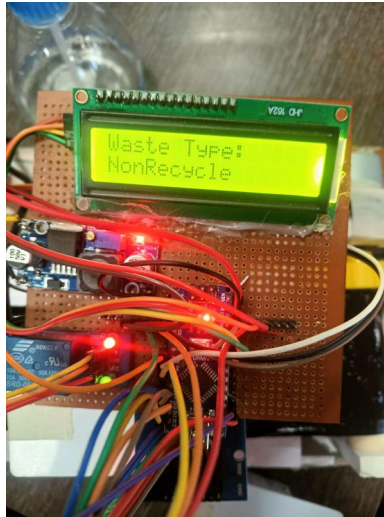


Fig. (3)

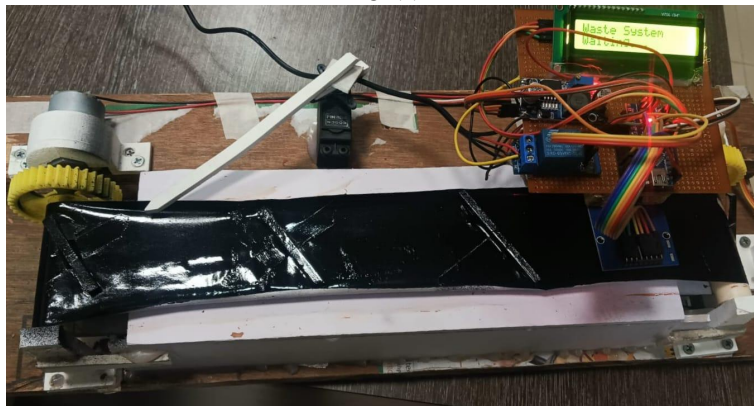


Fig. (4)

**RESULT**



Fig. (5)





Fig. (6)

## XI. FUTURE SCOPE

### 1. Advanced Waste Classification

The system can be enhanced in the future via AI and machine learning to recognize a wider variety of waste items such as plastic metal glass and electronic waste at an even higher level of accuracy.

### 2. Integration with Smart City Systems

The machine can be integrated with the smart city networks to obtain real-time updates of waste levels, pick-up schedules and maintenance alerts among other things.

### 3. IoT-Based Monitoring

With the use of Internet of Things (IoT), information can be transmitted to a central server for: keeping record of usage, checking the levels of bins getting filled enhancing the efficiency of waste collection

### 4. Reward and Incentive Systems

Later releases can have: Online rewards (points vouchers cashback), Integration with mobile apps ,to motivate the public to participate more.

### 5. Solar-Powered Operation

Making the system solar powered is an excellent way to conserve energy and also be able to use the system in remote or outdoor areas.

### 6. Improved Sensor Technology

Better and more sophisticated sensors (e.g. cameras with image processing, gas sensors) will be able to feel the presence of different types of wastes and their conditions more precisely.

### 7. Compact and Cost-Effective Design

Further research and development may: result in a significantly smaller size, affordability, ease of installation, even in the large numbers, features of the machine, among others.

### 8. Multi-Language and User-Friendly Interface

Besides adding voice guidance and multi-lingual screens, making the machine user-friendly will allow it to be used by a wider audience.

9. Data analytics for waste management Data analysis of collected waste can reveal waste production trends and assist policy makers in making sound environmental decisions.

10. Expansion to public and rural areas After cost reduction and enhancement of durability, the system can be installed

## XII. ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

### Advantages

1. Automatic Waste Segregation The system can cut down significantly on the requirement for human involvement in sorting. By sensing what kind of waste (wet or dry), it directs it to the respective bin.

2. Improves Hygiene By limiting humans' touch with refuse, it helps to stop propagating germs and diseases.

3. Efficient Waste Management

Proper segregation increases recycling efficiency.



Helps municipalities manage waste better.

4. Smart Detection System

Proximity sensor → detects when waste is placed.

IR sensor → identifies object presence and sometimes material type.

Soil/moisture sensor → distinguishes wet (organic) vs dry waste.

5. Saves Time and Labor Reduces reliance on sanitation workers for the first sorting of waste.

6. Encourages Public Participation Vending-style machines that offer rewards (e.g. coupons points) to the users will motivate them to dispose of waste responsibly.

### Limitations

1. Limited Accuracy Sometimes the sensors wrongly identify the type of waste (e.g. slightly wet paper might be confused with organic waste). IR sensors have difficulties distinguishing complex materials at times.

2. Large Upfront Investment The expenses related to installation and initial setup might be very high. This type of system is equipped with microcontrollers, sensors, and mechanical parts.

3. Maintenance Requirements A sensor can become dirty or its performance may deteriorate due to the waste. It is necessary to clean and calibrate the system frequently.

4. Power Dependency It needs an uninterrupted electric power source. Such option is not suitable for the locations where electricity is unstable or not available.

5. Limited Waste Categories A device generally divides only basic types (wet/dry). It may not be able to segregate the hazardous or electronic waste properly.

6. USER MISUSE Users can put the wrong items or load it beyond its capacity. The device operation is contingent upon the proper and intended use.

### XIII. CONCLUSION

The Waste and Garbage Segregation Vending Machine is an innovative and effective method for modernizing waste management practices. This concept clearly presents the potential of automation alongside sensor-based technologies in making different waste types separation more efficient. The system leverages an IR sensor to identify when waste has been deposited by the user into the machine. A proximity sensor is then employed to ascertain the nature of the material based on distance or reflective characteristics. Thing is, soil sensors detect when soil gets too dry or too wet. The system sorts trash automatically, no human hands needed. Now, it seems hard to ignore how this keeps workers from coming into contact with waste. Clean bins mean less risk of illness spreading around the site.

It contributes to a more effective recycling process by making sure that no-throw-away items get separated right where they'd been discarded. The format of the trash-dispensing machine may be an incentive to encourage people to throw their litter correctly, especially if there are some perks linked to it. Besides, the gear is small in size, inexpensive, and can be placed in open-access locations such as schools colleges malls, and railway stations.

In brief, the subject sheds light on how a smart waste management system play a key role in the progress of the community.

The incorporation of IR, proximity, and soil sensors helps to more accurately perform tasks, lower environmental pollution, and support sustainable methodology. Newer models might encourage people to toss things in the right place. That small shift in behaviour adds up over time and helps keep neighbourhoods safer.

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