



Dear {firstname},

Greetings from SPTM!

What an eventful quarter we have had!

In October we took the 'पाऊल पुढे? – हात समोर!' campaign to the schools of Maharashtra Mandal. That experience has made us confident that we can now extend the campaign to all schools in Pune.

After the Diwali break, we focused on the 4th edition of Pedestrians Day, to ensure that SPTM's stall on Lakshmi Road attracts a lot of visitors, who take home a message with them.

And in the process, we have revived a channel to interact with our longtime supporters and well-wishers: The 'sptm-sunrise' GoogleGroup!

पाऊल पुढे? – हात समोर! Phase 2

Maharashtriyas Mandal embraces 'पाऊल पुढे? – हात समोर!'

Maharashtriyas Mandal is an old and reputed educational institute in Pune. They immediately understood the importance of the 'पाऊल पुढे? – हात समोर!' campaign and enthusiastically supported SPTM in extending it to their schools.

1. We conducted an orientation session for their teachers
2. The teachers then explained the technique to the students
3. The schools also informed the parents that they have taught this technique to their students because they care for their students' safety
4. We also explained the campaign to ~110 volunteers of their Chandrashekhar Agashe College, who demonstrated the technique to these students, their parents and rickshaw-kakas 'on-road', when the school shift ends.

Now about 2500 students of their schools can cross a road **safely and independently**. The invaluable experience with these schools makes us confident that now SPTM can extend this technique of safely crossing roads to all schools in Pune!



Here is what their Principals have to say about this initiative!

"Sticking your hand out while crossing a road helps children cross a road safely and confidently."

- Smt Aditi Lomate,
Principal, English Medium Primary School,
Maharashtriyas Mandal.



Pedestrians' Safety Campaign

"पादचारांच्या सुरक्षिततेसाठी 'पाऊल पुढे? - हात समोर' हे तंत्र सगळ्या शाळांनी मुलांपर्यंत आणि पालकांपर्यंत पोचवायला हवे!"

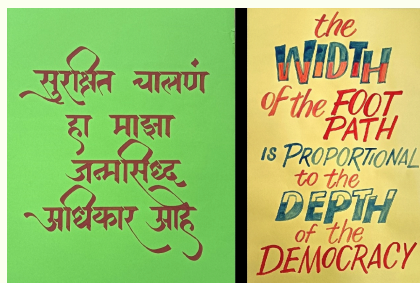
- श्री. संजय शेंडगे,
मुख्याध्यापक, दगडूराम कटारिया हायस्कूल, महाराष्ट्रीय मंडळ.



Pedestrians' Safety Campaign

The **4th Pedestrians Day** was celebrated on **11th December**, a testament to SPTM's vision and commitment to pedestrian safety. This initiative continues to remind us that much work remains to be done to improve conditions for pedestrians.

As part of the celebration, the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) transformed an 800-meter stretch of Laxmi Road into a vibrant, vehicle-free '**Pedestrians Plaza**'. This year, the plaza was adorned with **1,700 creative drawings** by students from PMC schools and beautifully crafted calligraphy contributed by SPTM well-wishers, making it a visual treat and a memorable experience for all!



We are deeply grateful to MES Senior College for their generous support. Thanks to **Principal Shri Ravindra Vaidya Sir** and **Shri Ravindra Gore Sir**, along with their students, who provided hardboards, mounted the artwork, and set up the exhibition early in the morning.

Eye-opening experiences!

Visitors at our stall used a **white cane and a wheelchair** to experience firsthand the challenges faced by differently-abled fellow city residents. It was a powerful and humbling moment for many.

One young visitor shared, *"From now on, when I see a narrower carriageway due to a new footpath, I'll realize it is enabling a wheelchair user to go out and buy bread."*

A commitment to Pedestrians' Safety

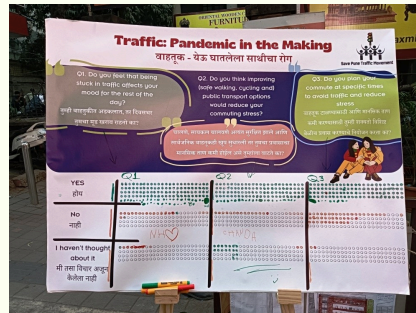
Finally, our stall's message to visitors was crystal clear: we are unwavering in our commitment to pedestrian safety. This was captured in the most fitting words, inspired by Lokmanya Tilak's iconic quote.

सुरक्षित चालणे हा आमचा जन्मसिद्ध अधिकार आहे, आणि आम्ही तो राखणारच!

SPTM's stall at Lakshmi Rd

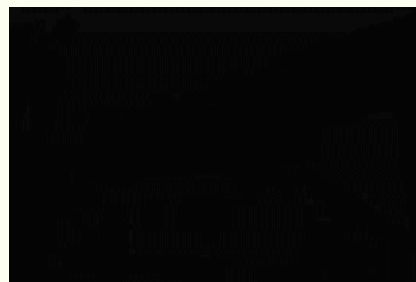
We set up a vibrant stall at the **Pedestrians Plaza** this year, featuring interactive exhibits that captivated visitors.

One of the highlights was '**Traffic – A Pandemic in the Making**,' which shed light on lesser-discussed issues surrounding urban mobility. Visitors eagerly participated, expressing their thoughts and frustrations on a dedicated board—a true venting-out zone!



Our **quiz** was another crowd favorite! An impressive **240 people** took part, with 20 managing to crack the answers—except for the first question, which stumped everyone!

Think you can do better? Take a shot at the challenge! Check out the video below for the questions and answers.



Footpath Usage survey

Our insights into why pedestrians avoid using footpaths caught the media's attention and received excellent coverage!

The detailed findings are compiled in our report, **'Footpath Usage Survey 2024: Findings,'** available on our website. We have also submitted the report to the **Road Department** and the **Honorable Commissioner of PMC** to inspire meaningful action.

Explore the report and join us in advocating for safer and more accessible footpaths!

पदपथ ठरताहेत गैरसोईचे

शहरातील २४ ठिकाणच्या रस्त्यांवरील स्थिती

■ सकाळ वृत्तसंवा

पुणे, ता. ९ : महानगरपालिकेने शहरातील रस्त्यांवर पदपथ तयार केले, मात्र या पदपथांवरून पादचार्यांना चालणे सोईकर ठरत नाही. त्यामुळे पादचार्यांकडून त्यांचा पुला वापर होत असल्याचा निष्कर्ष येथे पुणे ट्रिब्यून म्युन्सिपल (एनव्हीएनएन) या संस्थेच्या सर्वेकाणद्वारे उघड झाले. सर्वेकाणद्वारे संशोधित पदपथांचे फोटो व माहिती 'एसस'वर बाहेर काढण्यात आले आहे. यावरून महानगरपालिकेला देखील ही माहिती देऊन त्यावर सुधारणा करण्याचे सुचविण्यात येणार आहे.

येथे पुणे ट्रिब्यून म्युन्सिपल (एनव्हीएनएन) या संस्थेनेही सर्वेकाणद्वारे शहरातील वाहतुकीच्या सर्वेकाणवार अडथळा उद्भवित जातो. वाहतुकीसंबंधी विविध प्रश्ने सोडविण्यासाठी 'एसव्हीटीएस' संस्थेकडून काम केले जाते. या संस्थेने मुंबईत शहरातील रस्त्यांवरील पदपथांच्या वापराच्या तात्काळीने सर्वेकाण केले आहे. त्यानुसार, महानगरपालिकेने २४ रस्त्यांवर पादपथ काढी करित पदपथ तयार केले आहेत. मात्र पादचार्यां संशोधित पदपथांच्या वापर करण्याचे ठाऊक असल्याचे निदर्शनास आले. पादचार्यांकडून पदपथांच्या वापर न करण्याची कारणेही सर्वेकाणद्वारे सोपविली जात आहेत. काही ठिकाणी पदपथ अडत आहेत, तर काही ठिकाणी पदपथांच्या विद्यमान व्यवस्थित नसल्याने पादचार्यांना त्यावरून चालणे विचित्रचे ठरत आहे.



सर्वेकाण केलेल्या २४ रस्त्यांवरील पदपथांची ठिकाणे

डॉची रस्ता (औंध), आर्यकर्म टॉवरजवळ (बायें), चणूकर महाविद्यालय रस्ता, चणू कालनी, जंगली महागज रस्ता, गुडवणी महागज रस्ता, पु. १९, केगावडे उद्यानमार्गे (विंगर रस्ता), विंगर-वडीचा काठ्या रस्ता, डुरागी केकेवड (प्रभात रस्ता), सीएमपीएसएल बसस्थानक (बाकडेबाडी), गोटव इव्हिंगस्टोन (मरा रस्ता), ब्रह्मपुल्लखालील रस्ता (मरायट्टा), उमर किनारा (मार्केट बाई), उमर किनारा (विक्केवाडी कोठ्या रस्ता), ज्योती हॉटेल, कोठ्या रस्ता, विनयनजवळ (शिवकर गार्डन), डीन बॉस्कोजवळ, विमानमरा रस्ता, मेहन लखन चौक, नेहरू रस्ता, विपी महाविद्यालय रस्ता, साहू कॉलेज रस्ता, अमृत भिंगा, भिंगा माधोपयजवळ, हॉटेल कपालीजवळ, विक्केवाडी, रड्डानजवळ, चारडी.

'एसपीटीएम' संस्थेचे संचालक हर्षद अय्यकर म्हणाले...

- महानगरपालिकेने मागील देण ते डीन जवळ बाहेर पदपथ तयार केले आहेत. या रस्त्यांवरील पदपथांची बाकी पदपथांच्या वापरापासून बाहेर पदपथांच्या रस्त्यांवर आहे. पदपथ आहेत, मात्र त्याच्या भेटी, रचना, पार्किंग व्यवस्था अशा वेगवेगळ्या कारणामुळे बुरी स्थिती झाल्या आहेत.
- पदपथ बांधणी नगरीक त्याच वापर करत आहेत, तर काय उपयोगात येण्या पाहिले, याबद्दल तसे दिसत नाही. यासाठी आम्ही @FollowSPTM या 'एसस' सोशलमिडियावर संशोधित पदपथांचे फोटो, पावती माहिती, पादचार्यांच्या अडथळा माहितीत पोचवत येत आहे.
- माहिती व फोटो संशोधकांची माहिती देण्या मुकामावर (ता. १२) मुकाम आहे. यावरून संशोधित माहिती महानगरपालिकेला देणार आहे, त्यामुळे एवढा उपयोगात करण्यात येत होत आहे.

Broken, encroached & forgotten: Footpaths in city fail pedestrians

State exposes the alarming state of footpaths that are neglected and unsafe, leading to a sharp decline in their usage by residents

Udaykumar Gaidkar

PUNE Maharashtra's capital city has a reputation for its vibrant culture and bustling streets. However, the state's infrastructure, particularly its footpaths, is in a state of neglect and disrepair. A recent survey conducted by the State Transport Corporation (STC) reveals the alarming state of these paths, which are often broken, encroached, and forgotten. The survey found that only 15% of the city's footpaths are in good condition, while the remaining 85% are either broken or encroached upon by parked vehicles and other obstacles. This state of affairs is a major concern for pedestrians, who are often forced to walk on the road or use unsafe shortcuts. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are made of unpolished concrete, which is prone to cracking and crumbling. This makes them extremely slippery, especially when it rains. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly lit, which is a major safety hazard for pedestrians at night. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly maintained, with no regular cleaning or repairs. This state of affairs is a major concern for pedestrians, who are often forced to walk on the road or use unsafe shortcuts. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are made of unpolished concrete, which is prone to cracking and crumbling. This makes them extremely slippery, especially when it rains. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly lit, which is a major safety hazard for pedestrians at night. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly maintained, with no regular cleaning or repairs.

The observation

Category	Percentage
Footpaths in good condition	15%
Footpaths in poor condition	85%
Footpaths encroached upon by parked vehicles	45%
Footpaths made of unpolished concrete	85%
Footpaths not properly lit	85%
Footpaths not properly maintained	85%

CONCLUSION

The survey reveals that the state's footpaths are in a state of neglect and disrepair. This is a major concern for pedestrians, who are often forced to walk on the road or use unsafe shortcuts. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are made of unpolished concrete, which is prone to cracking and crumbling. This makes them extremely slippery, especially when it rains. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly lit, which is a major safety hazard for pedestrians at night. The survey also found that the majority of the city's footpaths are not properly maintained, with no regular cleaning or repairs.

© MAGAZTEEN

Clipped from - Hindustan Times Pune - September 12, 2024
Read it regularly on the Magazine app

Phase 3 of 'पाऊल पुढे? - हात समोरा!'

Inspired by the experience of Phase 2 of the campaign with Maharashtra Mandal schools, we are planning Phase 3 to take the campaign to all schools in Pune. We are focusing on school students, because with the same effort, the campaign also reaches their family members. We will cover other demographic groups in subsequent phases.

Catch 'em Young

Road safety should be your second nature. The best age to expose a person to defensive road use is Std 3-4-5. In 2025 we wish to build a team of young volunteers to conduct such workshops in 30 schools. Our vision is to make this a de-facto annual workshop in all schools in Pune.

Volunteer-driven activities

One of the most exciting outcomes of **Pedestrians Day 2024** is the overwhelming interest from new volunteers eager to join SPTM's initiatives.

To keep this momentum alive, we will be posting updates and activity announcements for our **Volunteer Program** on our website. Don't forget to stay connected through our social media platforms for the latest updates!

We are planning a series of impactful activities to channel this energy—not just to raise awareness among Pune-kars about critical issues, but to inspire tangible, on-ground improvements. Together, let's create a safer and more sustainable Pune!

Keeping in touch and playing a role

You could play a role in our activities as they shape up, whether by providing guidance or by taking up tasks that suit you, by joining the '**sptm-sunrise**' email **GoogleGroup**.

You could even join the **SPTM Volunteers' WhatsApp group** that we are forming to harness the energy of people who have offered to volunteer in our activities.

Please reply to this mail in either case.

How can you contribute for improving Pune's transportation!

Donations: While we are approaching large CSR donors for the larger Phase 3, every small donation from individual donors will help us provide enough volunteers to conduct Phase 2 effectively. [Please donate generously!](#)

Volunteering: We frequently need volunteers for campaigns and surveys. We can make use of some 'off-road' skills too, in addition to 'on-road' activities. [Interested?](#)

Connections: Do you very closely know a big company or business who can give us a handsome donation? Or a large group of volunteers that can be useful to SPTM? [Let us know!](#)

Use the buttons below for the respective actions. Thank you!

Donate for the cause:
Personal, CSR

Volunteer in the
campaign

Connect us with the
right people

Sus-trans Challenge!

Test your knowledge of sustainable transportation ☐

A good urban bus service should have a good route structure, well maintained buses, among other desirable attributes. But it must of course have a good number of buses.

While there is no 'rule' about how many buses a city must have per lakh population, there are well accepted norms for Indian cities. Pune's Comprehensive Mobility Plan also follows these norms.

About how many buses should a city have, per lakh population?

- 25
- 50
- 75
- 100

Last time we talked about the National Urban Transport Policy, and asked-
In which year was the NUT adopted?

Answer: 2006.

शाब्बास!

PMC, for observing Pedestrians Day

We are all aware that a lot more needs to be done before we can say that you can safely and conveniently walk around in the city. Even then, we must congratulate PMC for observing the Pedestrians Day annually, on 11th December.

Observing the Day helps bring several angles of the topic to the forefront, fostering improvements.



We hope other Government as well as private organizations will also observe the Day in the years to come.

Enroll yourself as a volunteer, or for an internship for projects that improve people's lives! [Fill up this form.](#)

Stay tuned in with us!



Please make sure that SPTM Conquest issues are not going in your 'Spam' or 'Forums' folders.

If you would like to unsubscribe, please [click here](#).

