

Swachha Maharashtra Mission (Urban)



Matheran

An Open Defecation Free City in Maharashtra

Declared on 2nd October 2015

Journey of a town towards becoming ODF

**Urban Development Department
Government of Maharashtra**

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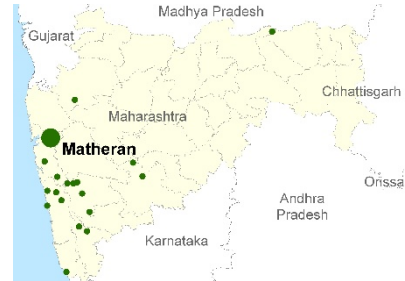
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Matheran, Maharashtra

A tale of Improved Sanitation....

1. City Profile

Matheran is municipal council in Raigad district, established in 1905. Matheran, which means forest on the forehead is a hill station. Matheran is a car free hill station and no vehicle zone. Because of its connectivity to Pune and Mumbai, it is a tourist attraction. It is an eco-sensitive region declared by Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India. Population of Matheran municipal council is 4393. Total area under Matheran municipal council (MMC) is 7 Km².



Map 1: Matheran and other ODF cities

1.1. Sanitation scenario prior to launch of mission.

According to census 2011, out of 977 households (HHs) 959 households have access to toilets and 18 households defecate in open. MMC surveyed 965 households in year 2015. During the survey, it was found that out of 965 households, 779 households have individual toilets and 186 households depend on community toilets. In MMC survey, no households were found to defecate in open.

In Matheran, there are 28 community toilets with 138 seats. These community toilets were found to be functioning well due to regular and sufficient water supply, Water to all the public and community toilets is provided by the MMC. MMC receives water from Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran. These community toilets are operated and maintained by MMC. Municipal council majorly provided public and community toilets considering daily floating population as Matheran is a hill station and major tourist attraction. Currently 81% HHs have individual toilets and 19% HHs are depended on community toilets.

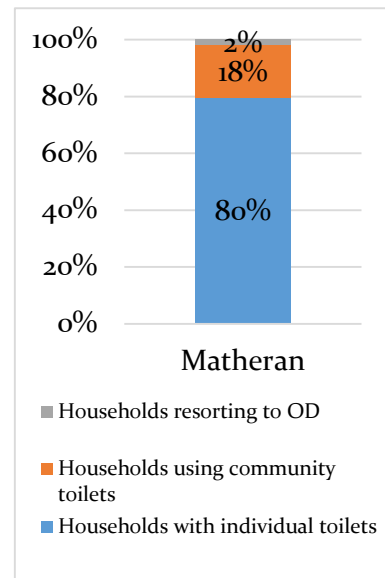


Figure 1: Access to type of sanitation facility



Photograph 1: Community toilets in Matheran

1.2. Target set by Council

The work to make Matheran open defecation free was initiated much before the launch of Swachha Maharashtra Mission. According to Census of India 2011, 18 households were defecating in open in the city. MMC focused their work on these 18 families. Target was set by

municipal council to make city open defecation free. Construction of community toilets was emphasized due to less availability of private land. New construction within the municipal council limit needs approval from monitoring committee as Matheran is an eco-sensitive region. But as the monitoring committee is not yet formed, no households are getting permission for construction. Within the Matheran Municipal Council area limit, majority of land is owned by government departments (Forest department and Revenue department). Land here is given **on lease** to citizens. Considering the higher availability of government land over private land, municipal council had to provide community toilets to increase the sanitation coverage.

2. Initiatives by the council

2.1. Pre -Mission Initiatives (Before 2014)

All dry toilets within Matheran municipal council limit were converted to water sealed toilets connected to either soak pit or septic tanks before 31 May 1991.

In year 2007-08, Matheran participated in Sant Gadagebaba Nagari Swachata Abhiyan and achieved second rank among class C municipal councils. During this Abhiyan, initiative was taken to generate awareness related to sanitation awareness. It was important to end open defecation as Matheran is a tourist place. Effective penetration of awareness campaign was possible because of small number of household. Door to door consultation and awareness campaigns were carried out by municipal council. People were informed about the issues related to open defecation using mega-phone. Ward Councilor generated this awareness by holding ward level meetings with the people. All these efforts helped to make the city ODF. Checking and inspection of the suspected/potential open defecation site was carried out by the Municipal council officials and sanitary inspectors.



Photograph 2: awareness campaign and volunteer work

Inspections of the open lands in the residential areas were carried out again before declaring Matheran as ODF under the Swachha Maharashtra Abhiyan. Supervisors of the MMC and their team inspected the residential areas continuously for 3 months to check if open defecation still prevails. The sanitary inspector of the council visited the sites after every 8 days. During this inspection, MMC did not come across a single case of OD.

Matheran being a hill station with environmental concerns, has restrictions on construction of new buildings, construction of sanitation related infrastructures like sewage treatment plants also needs various approvals. Thus for a long period of time, there was no sewage treatment

plant (STP) in Matheran. Hotels and private buildings had their own small scale sewage treatment plants. Government of Maharashtra had approved for constructing sewage treatment plants at 10 places. Amount of Rs. 9.85 lakh has been given for construction of STP at Indiranagar, Matheran. MMC got technical approval from Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikarn, Panvel. It has capacity of 100 Cubic Meters/ day. STP at Indiranagar will be based on PHYTORIDE technology (NEERI) with an estimated date of completion by December 2016.

2.2. Under Swachha Maharashtra Mission (SMM)

Matheran Municipal Council (MMC) conducted survey (in year 2015) for 965 HHs. 779HHs have individual toilets and 186 HHs are dependent upon Community Toilets. Community toilets are operated and maintained by MMC. 30 government workers and 50 from private contractor are employed for community toilets. 186 HHs which do not have individual toilets use these community toilets. Due to high percentage of sanitation coverage in the city, no new individual, and group or community toilets is constructed under SMM till the date. Suspected/Potential open defecation sites and areas are inspected by MMC before announcing Matheran as open defecation free city. It is found that none of households are defecating in open.

Swachhta Shapath (Oath to keep city clean) was given to all government employees, officers in Matheran MC and schools.



Photograph 3: Swachhta Shapath being taken

3. Declaration and Validation of Open Defecation Free City

On 2nd October 2015, Matheran MC President declared Matheran as open defecation free city, Validation committee visited Matheran on 19 and 20 December 2015. Validation committee visited tourist spots, community toilets, and other municipal areas. Validation committee also met households and interacted with them. Final Report on validation is awaited.

4. Strategy for Moving towards ODF+ City

Matheran City has achieved the status of ODF city by eliminating open defecation, providing individual toilets to around 80% of households and connecting toilets to safe technology options. But being an eco sensitive region, it has norms controlling the construction activity in the city and mobility within the city. These norms make it challenging for the city to achieve the complete ODF+ and ODF++ status. With time and technological advancement, city will make efforts to further improve its sanitation status. Decentralized sewerage treatment plants are approved on 10 different places in municipal council area, which would help Matheran to move towards achieving ODF++ status.

5. Team behind Success

- Municipal Chief office (Matheran): P. Thombare
- President: Goutam Gaikwad
- Health Inspector: Rajesh Ranjane
- Citizens of Matheran



Swachhta Pledge

Mahatma Gandhi dreamt of an India which was not only free but also clean and developed.

Mahatma Gandhi secured freedom for Mother India.

Now it is our duty to serve Mother India by keeping the country neat and clean.

I take this pledge that I will remain committed towards cleanliness and devote time for this.

I will devote 100 hours per year, that is two hours per week, to voluntarily work for cleanliness.

I will neither litter nor let others litter.

I will initiate the quest for cleanliness with myself, my family, my locality, my village and my work place.

I believe that the countries of the world that appear clean are so because their citizens don't indulge in littering nor do they allow it to happen.

With this firm belief, I will propagate the message of Swachh Bharat Mission in villages and towns.

I will encourage 100 other persons to take this pledge which I am taking today.

I will endeavour to make them devote their 100 hours for cleanliness.

I am confident that every step I take towards cleanliness will help in making my country clean.



भारत सरकारचा पुढाकार
स्वच्छ महाराष्ट्र करू साकार



संकल्प स्वच्छतेचा

- सहभागाचा ठाम निर्धार
- व्यापक लोकसहभाग मिळवणार
- १०० टक्के शौचालयाचाच वापर करण्यासाठी प्रवृत्त करणार
- कचऱ्याचे संकलन, वर्गीकरण, वाहतूक करणार
- कचऱ्यावर शास्त्रोक्त प्रक्रिया करणार
- सांडपाण्यावर प्रक्रिया करणार
- स्वच्छ व हरित महाराष्ट्र साकारणार

सप्तपदी : स्वच्छ व हरित महाराष्ट्रासाठी ...

*This report is part of a series documenting the efforts made by 19 cities in Maharashtra towards becoming open defecation free. These cities have laid the foundation of "ODF Maharashtra" as envisaged under **Swachh Maharashtra Mission (Urban)***

*It has been prepared in consultation with Urban Local Government and **Urban Development Department, Government of Maharashtra**, with support from **CEPT University, Ahmedabad** and **All India Institute of Local Self Governments (AIIISG), Mumbai** under the **Performance Assessment System (PAS) Project**.*



Government of
Maharashtra

