



## Panchgani

An Open Defecation Free City in Maharashtra

Declared on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

**Journey of a town towards becoming ODF**

**Urban Development Department  
Government of Maharashtra**



# Contents

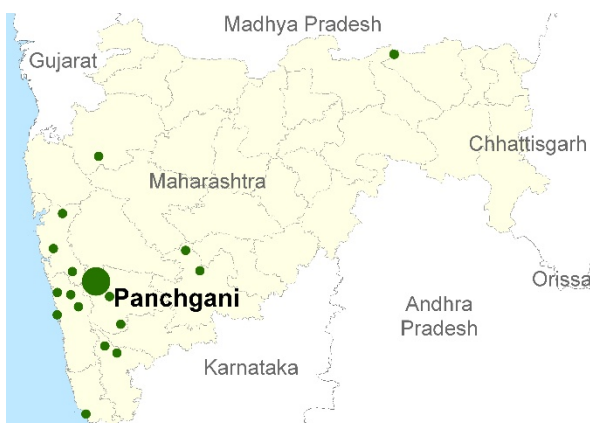
1	City Profile .....	1
2	Sanitation Scenario in Panchgani prior to the launch of mission .....	1
3	Targets set by the council.....	2
3.1	Ending open defecation.....	2
3.2	Providing a clean and safe environment to boost tourism .....	2
4	Initiatives by the council .....	2
4.1	Construction of household level toilets under SMM .....	2
4.2	Contract for maintenance of community and Public toilets .....	3
4.3	Collection and treatment of liquid waste .....	3
4.4	Participation of Citizens and Elected Representatives.....	4
5	Declaration and Validation of ODF City by the Government .....	5
6	Strategy for Sustainability .....	5
6.1	Penalising open defecation.....	5
6.2	Financial sustainability.....	6
7	Strategy for Moving towards ODF++ City .....	6
8	Initiatives in SWM sector.....	7
8.1	Ban on use of plastic .....	7
8.2	Penalty for littering.....	7
8.3	Solid waste treatment plant.....	7
8.4	Financial sustainability.....	8
9	The PSHMC team .....	8



# Panchgani, Maharashtra

## 1 City Profile

Panchgani is a class C council in located in Satara district of Maharashtra with a population of 14,894 (Census 2011). The 6.8 sq km city lies close the Mahabaleshwar, a more famous hill-station. It is known for *table land*; a large flat expanse of laterite rock which is the second longest mountain plateau in Asia and other tourist attractions. The picturesque city is home to nearly 40 residential schools and also a major shooting location for Indian cinema. The city is part of Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani Eco-Sensitive Zone declared by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2000.



Map 1: Panchgani and other ODF cities

The city is governed by Panchgani Hill Station Municipal Council (PHSMC) led by President Mrs Laxmi Karhadkar and supported by 16 nagarsevaks. The executive wing is headed by Chief Officer Smt. Vidyadevi Pol.

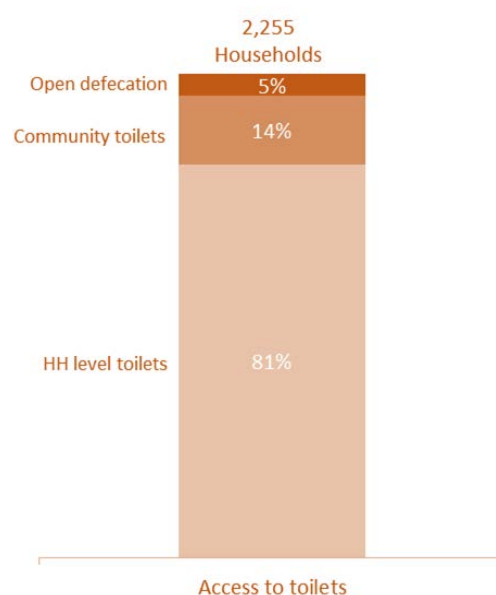
## 2 Sanitation Scenario in Panchgani prior to the launch of mission

According to Census 2011, out of 2,255 households in the city, 1,834 households had toilets on premises, 319 households are dependent on community toilets and 102 households defecate in the open.

As per the information submitted to PAS in 2014-15, the city has a sewer network (4km) as well as a network of open (5.4 km) and closed (16.5 km) drains.

The city has adopted a decentralised treatment system and its two treatment plants have a cumulative capacity to treat 1.5 MLD wastewater. In addition to the wastewater, septage collected through the council's septic tank emptying service is also treated at the STPs.

Nearly 1600 and more than 500 households respectively let off grey water into closed drains and open drains, while nearly 150 reported no access to drains as per Census 2011.



Access to sanitation facilities

### 3 Targets set by the council

#### 3.1 Ending open defecation

As local businesses thrive because of tourism, most of the people are aware of the importance of keeping the city clean. Because of financial constraints, some households do not have a toilet. The target for PHSMC was therefore to identify such households and provide the incentive subsidy so as to put an end to open defecation.

#### 3.2 Providing a clean and safe environment to boost tourism

The council recognises that putting an end to open defecation is only the first step towards this end. Providing clean public conveniences at tourist spots for tourists and commuters as well as collect, treat and scientifically dispose all the waste generated in the city are the next steps to make the city clean and healthy for its residents and tourists alike.

### 4 Initiatives by the council

#### 4.1 Construction of household level toilets under SMM

A household survey conducted by PHSMC in July 2015 identified 158 households that did not have a toilet. When it called for applications, the council received nearly 156 applications of which 102 were approved and uploaded on SBM website. This was also the target set for the council under SMM. After construction of these toilets is complete, the council intends to request the state government for additional funds to provide toilets to the remaining applicants.

90 households have already started construction of the toilets of which 50 have completed. Updates regarding stage of construction and disbursement of subsidy are posted on the SBM portal.



Individual household level toilets constructed under SBM in Panchgani

Led by President Mrs Laxmi Karadkar, the council has decided to provide an additional subsidy of Rs 5,000 through the grants received from the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment of subsidy to the 90 households that have begun/completed construction has been disbursed depending on stage of construction. Till date a total subsidy of 8.88 lakhs has been disbursed by the council.

#### 4.2 Contract for maintenance of community and Public toilets

There are 8 community/public toilet blocks in Panchgani that have a total of 103 seats (55 for women and 48 for men). It was observed that unclean community toilets were one of the reasons that many people preferred not to use them. PHSMC decided to engage with private sector to tackle the issue. A contract towards this end was first awarded in the year 2003-2004 and renewed annually. The contractor cleans all the toilets and urinals twice a day using cleaning equipment and phenol provided by the council. The contractor's work is monitored by safai Mukadam and sanitary inspector on a daily basis.



Community and Public toilets in Panchgani

#### 4.3 Collection and treatment of liquid waste

The city has a sewerage collection network of 5.5 km that was completed in July 2014 at a cost of 3.2 Cr. The city accessed UIDSSMT funding for the project and contributed 10% of the project cost. This network covers the entire goathan area and more than 80% properties in the network area have already connected. The Council is working to ensure all the properties in areas where network is available connect to the network.

Owing to the topography of the city, PHSMC has adopted a decentralised system for treatment of wastewater. The city currently has 2 treatment



Sewage treatment plant

plants with a cumulative capacity of 1.5 MLD (0.65 + 1.15 MLD). Both of them use bio-remediation technology and were completed in May 2012 at a cost of 1.67 Cr. The city availed special grants from the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission for the project. The treated wastewater is provided to farmers on the downstream free of cost.

A third plant (1.05 MLD) using MBBR technology is currently under construction. The Rs 2 Cr project is being executed through a special grant under the Vaishisthapurna Kaama Yojana of the Government of Maharashtra. The council contributed 10% of the project cost.

#### 4.4 Participation of Citizens and Elected Representatives

Construction of toilets under SMM has been led by the president and nagarsevaks. After identification of beneficiaries, they were explained the conditions and process to avail subsidy in a public meeting called for the purpose. It was attended by all the beneficiaries, the president and nagarsevaks as well as officials of PHSMC. The officials resolved all the doubts raised and responded to specific queries as well. This meeting kick-started the toilet construction activity.

For awareness generation amongst the citizens and involve them in keeping the city clean a rally was organised. It saw participation of the council members, social organisations and many concerned citizens. Members of the council as well as state level committee members visited schools to generate awareness among the city's young citizens. Many women participated in rangoli competition arranged on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.



President and Councilors in a meeting with beneficiaries to kick-start construction of toilets



Activities like rangoli competition on Swachha Bharat and Swachha Panchgani were held on 2nd October 2015



State level committee members visited schools to create awareness amongst children





The President, nagarsevaks and concerned citizens were involved in monitoring state of community and public toilets and awareness generation activities

## 5 Declaration and Validation of ODF City by the Government

On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015, PHSMC declared Panchgani as an ODF city and submitted a report to the Government of Maharashtra (GoM). On site validation at district level was done by the collector office, Satara on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and positive report was submitted to the GoM. On 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015, PHSMC was awarded by the Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra during the State level event organised by the GoM. Further, on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, State Level Validation Committee conducted an in-depth validation as per the process set and the checklist provided by the GoM. PHSMC passed both this validation stage and is now listed as an “ODF City” in Maharashtra.

## 6 Strategy for Sustainability

PHSMC has given an utmost priority to achieving the target in such a way that it is sustained in the future. It has prepared an action plan for sustaining city to be ODF.

### 6.1 Penalising open defecation

Open defecation within the city has been recognised as a punishable offence and a fine of Rs 50 is collected from defaulters. A monitoring squad consisting of 2 staff members has been constituted. This squad moves around the town in the morning between 6am to 8am to monitor OD spots. In addition to collecting fines, the squad also makes the defaulters aware of the ill effects of open defecation.



Advertisement boards double up as awareness generating posters in Panchgani

## 6.2 Financial sustainability

Currently a flat sewerage charge of Rs 100 is collected from all connections annually. The council plans to increase taxes progressively to achieve 100% cost recovery over the next 5 years.

## 7 Strategy for Moving towards ODF++ City

As a sanitation improvement strategy for the city, PHSMC has decided to address entire sanitation service chain than only constructing toilets to satisfy all three indicators of “ODF++ cities” of the framework developed by the GoM for defining ODF Cities in Maharashtra.

PHSMC has already achieved the first indicator of this framework by eliminating open defecation practices in the city and is making efforts to make available own toilets to all the households over the next three years. For this purpose, the council will request additional funding from the GoM.

The wastewater collection network was recently connected and the process of connecting properties to the network where available is in progress. BY 2019, the PHSMC intends to collect all the wastewater generated in the city.

After completion of the third treatment plant, PHSMC will have adequate treatment capacity. The council is hopeful that this treatment plant becomes will be operational by next year.

	<b>Elimination of OD practices</b>	<b>Access to toilets</b>	<b>Conveyance and treatment of faecal waste</b>
<b>ODF City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not a single person found defecating in the open</li> <li>• No traces of faeces are visible in the city at any time of the day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All the properties have access to either own toilet or community/ public toilet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All toilets are connected to a disposal system</li> </ul>
<b>ODF+ City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not a single person found defecating in the open</li> <li>• No traces of faeces are visible in the city at any time of the day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 80% of residential properties have access to own toilets</li> <li>• Remaining properties have access to functional community/public toilets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All toilets are connected to a disposal system</li> <li>• Regular and safe collection, conveyance and treatment of all the faecal matter</li> </ul>
<b>ODF++ City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not a single person found defecating in the open</li> <li>• No traces of faeces are visible in the city at any time of the day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 95% of residential properties have access to own toilets</li> <li>• Remaining properties have access to functional community/public toilets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All toilets are connected to safe disposal system</li> <li>• Regular safe collection, conveyance and treatment of all faecal matter and waste water including septic tank effluent and grey water</li> </ul>

## 8 Initiatives in SWM sector

### 8.1 Ban on use of plastic

Plastic of less than 50 micron in thickness is banned since year 2005. If a commercial establishment is found to be using such banned plastic, a fine of Rs 500 is levied from first time offender and a repeat offender is fined Rs 5000. In FY 2015-16 PSHMC collected a total fine of Rs 4000.



### 8.2 Penalty for littering

PHSMC is the only council in the state to levy a penalty for any activity that creates dirt in the city. It has identified 22 such activities and fine for each act varies. Littering on street and public spaces, spitting, handing over unsegregated waste, etc. are some of the activities that attract penalty. The safai kamgar report any such activity to mukadams who are entrusted with responsibility of collecting fine.

### 8.3 Solid waste treatment plant

Panchgani produces about 3 MT solid waste daily and about 5 MT waste during peak tourist season. Earlier, all this waste was collected and crudely disposed at a dumpsite located near Sydney point, one of the tourist attractions in the city. Recently, the dumpsite has been developed as a garden and a solid waste treatment plant of 3MT has been set-up at the site. The waste is segregated and a mechanical composter produces compost out of organic waste. The plant was commissioned on 2 December 2015 at cost of 1.15 Cr. The city received funds from the district Nagarothan for the project and contributed 20% of the project cost.



The transformation of the old dumping site into an attractive public space





Press coverage of the newly commissioned SWM treatment plant at Panchgani

#### **8.4 Financial sustainability**

As the city has improved SWM service substantially in this year, the administration has proposed to levy user charges beginning next financial year. A proposal to levy user charges of Rs 50 per household per month and a certain percentage of property tax from commercial (hotels and residential schools) will be considered by the council while finalising budget for the next year.

### **9 The PSHMC team**

Smt. Vidyadevi Pol, Chief Officer  
Sau. Laxmi Karhadkar, President  
All Nagarsevaks  
Shri Nikhil Pawar, Engineer  
Shri. Rohit More, Awareness Program Manager  
Shri. Chandrakant Kasurde (Sanitary Inspector)  
Shri. Ganesh Kasurde (Sanitary Inspector)  
Shri Sunil Sanabe, SWM contractor  
All staff of PSHMC



## *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

स्वच्छ महाराष्ट्र अभियान  
**सप्तपदी**  
स्वच्छतेची

### 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



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

