Date: 15th December 2025

To,
Smt Pavneet Kaur,
Additional Commissioner,
Pune Municipal Corporation.

Subject: Submission of citizen led Social Audit Report of PMC Vishwas Initiative in Viman Nagar

Dear Pavneet ji,

The decision to extend the PMC Vishwas pilot to the entire city has alarmed organisations like ours, as it will have serious environmental and social repercussions and would worsen the waste management situation in the longer run.

As concerned citizens and civil society organisations, we have undertaken a rapid social audit of the two months of the pilot in the Viman Nagar area. Taking into account the different aspects of a social audit, we hereby submit the following recommendations based on the report;

For a fair assessment of the pilot, metrics based on the SWM Rules 2016 need to be defined. This will ensure a holistic assessment which takes into account all the stakeholders and perspectives.
A proper report based on waste collection coverage, gaps, and quantum of waste recycled need to be shared in the public domain.
Considering the financial and ecological impact, the established system of door to door collection, which integrates waste pickers and recycling be strengthened by identifying gaps, rather than introducing a new system which clearly does not fill the earlier gaps and in fact negatively impacts financial and environmental sustainability.

The following specific measures should be considered while doing the same;
Identify and address gaps in the current pushcart based, doorstep collection model rather than replacing it.
Provide institutional and financial support to strengthen SWaCH operations and monitoring.
Explore cleaner alternatives to diesel vehicles to minimize pollution and congestion.
Uphold the inclusive provisions of SWM Rules, 2016, which explicitly recognize the role of wastepickers.

Undertake a third-party audit of the system, accompanied by a comprehensive SWOT analysis, culminating in a report that incorporates inputs from all relevant stakeholders towards strengthening the existing system.

We urge you to consider these points and reinstate the older system, albeit with a gap analysis and subsequent strengthening.

Sincerely,

Shweta Vernekar
Senior Programme Associate, Parisar
📞 9960 732645 ✉️ shweta@parisar.org

Yuvraj Gatkal, National Alliance of People's Movements

Mahesh Goudelar, Volunteer, SAFAR
Khush Vachrajani, SAFAR
Anindita Adhikari, SAFAR