

















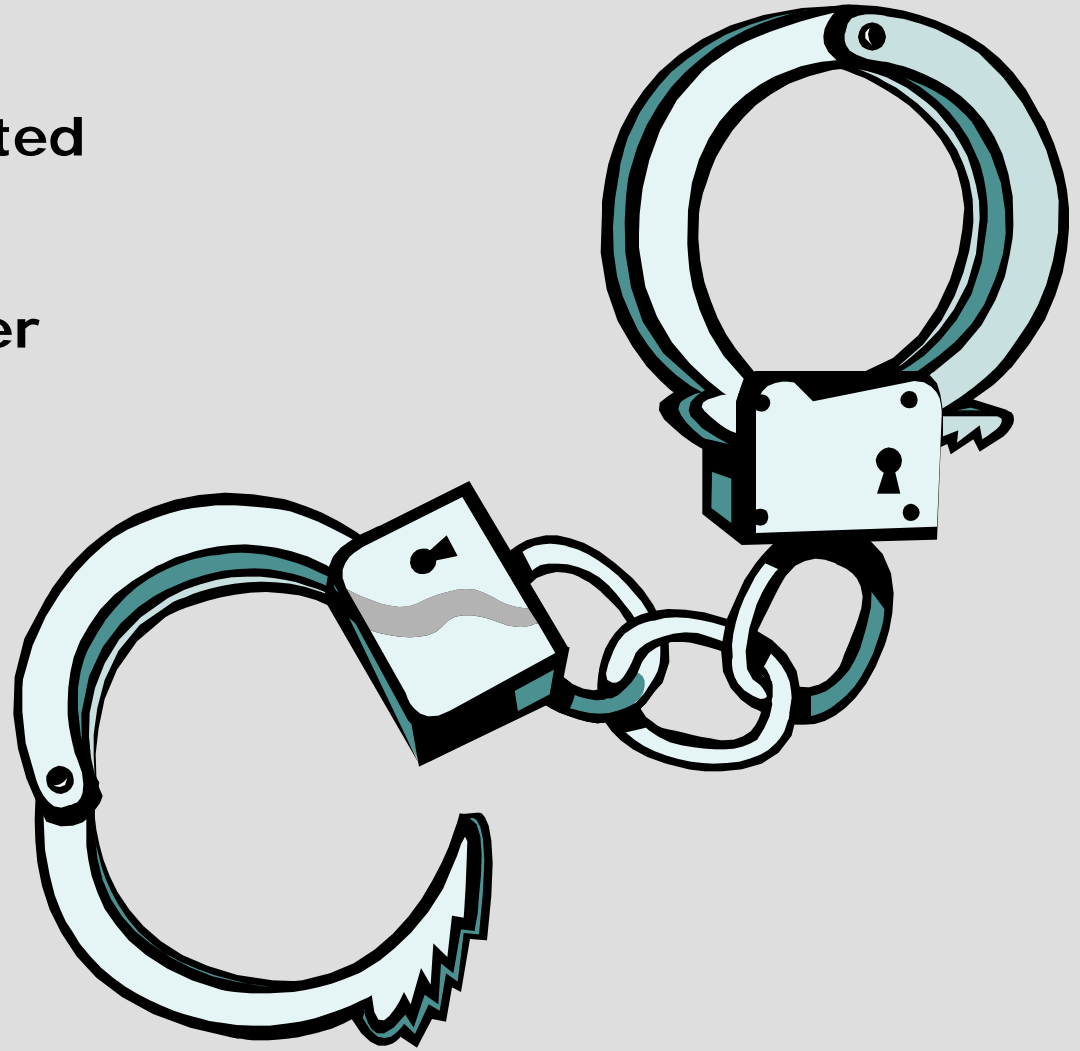


One in ten scrap collectors is accused of theft.

Every single one is acquitted

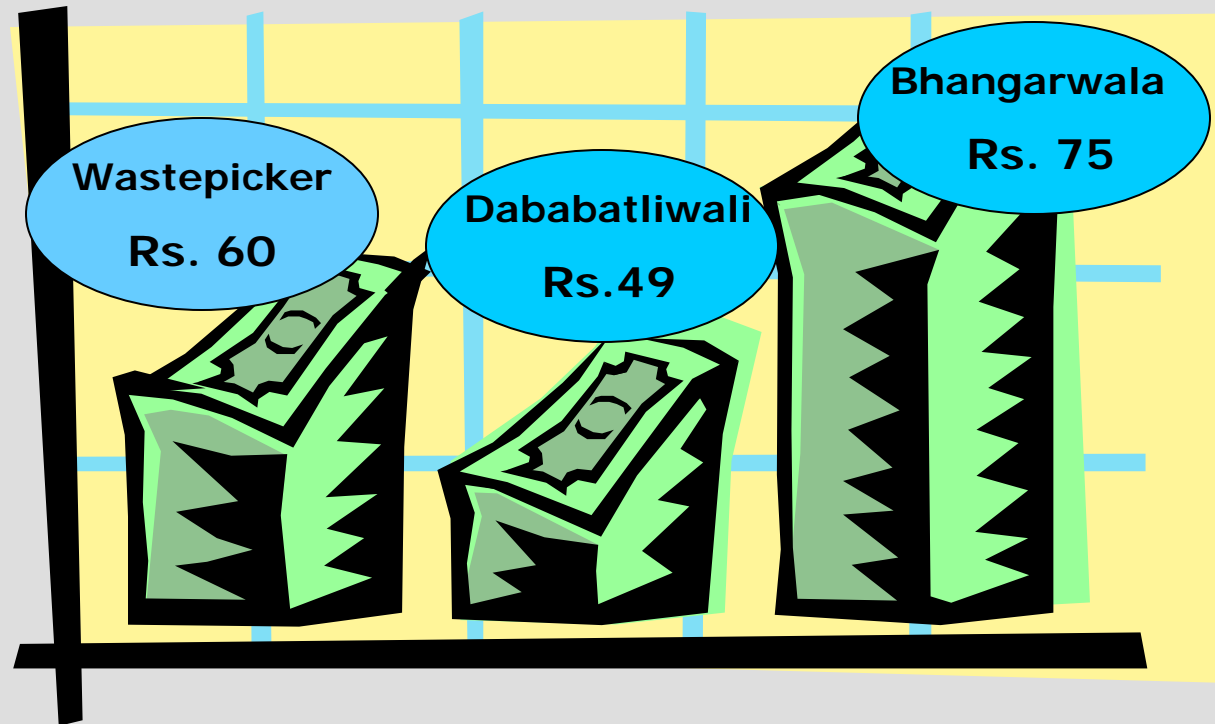
One in ten is harassed by security personnel or other citizens

One in ten is harassed by municipal staff



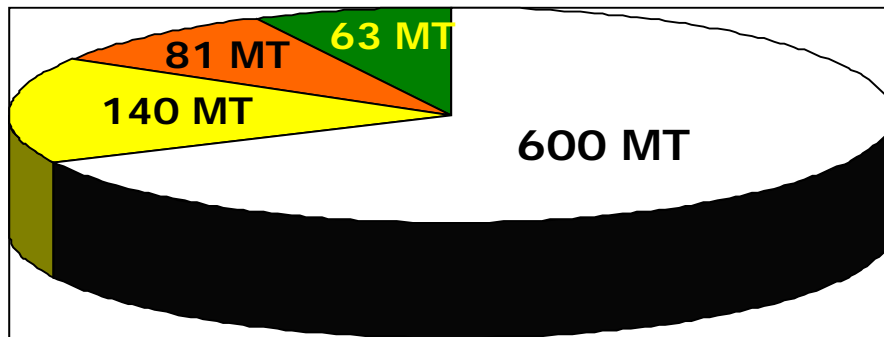
The Trade Union or scrap trader is approached for assistance

MEAN DAILY INCOME OF SCRAP COLLECTORS



Perquisites

- 30 % have been bitten by dogs
- 1/100 has 'child care' facilities
- Access to 'paid' drinking water
- Rest room?
- Every other scrap collectors gets Diwali bonus of Rs.250
- (less than 1 % of total annual income)



- **PMC
GARBAGE**
- **PCMC
GARBAGE**
- **WASTEPICKER
S SCRAP**
- **ITINERANT
BUYERS
SCRAP**

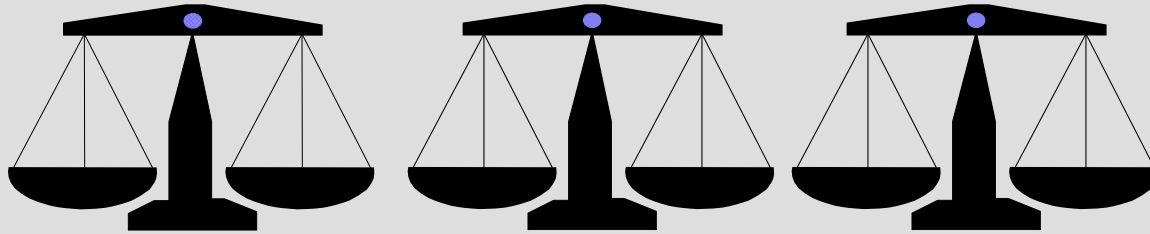
- The Pune Municipal Corporation saves US\$ 15,76,800 per annum in garbage handling costs on account of the work done by scrap collectors
- The environmental benefits have not been calculated

The Recycling Pyramid



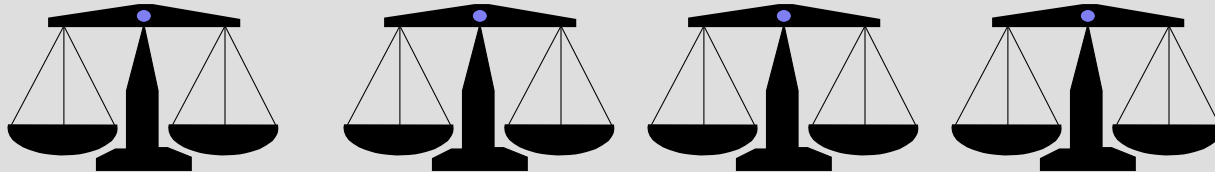
RECYCLERS

WHOLESALEERS



The total value of the trade in Pune is Rs.185 million per annum

STOCKISTS



RETAILERS



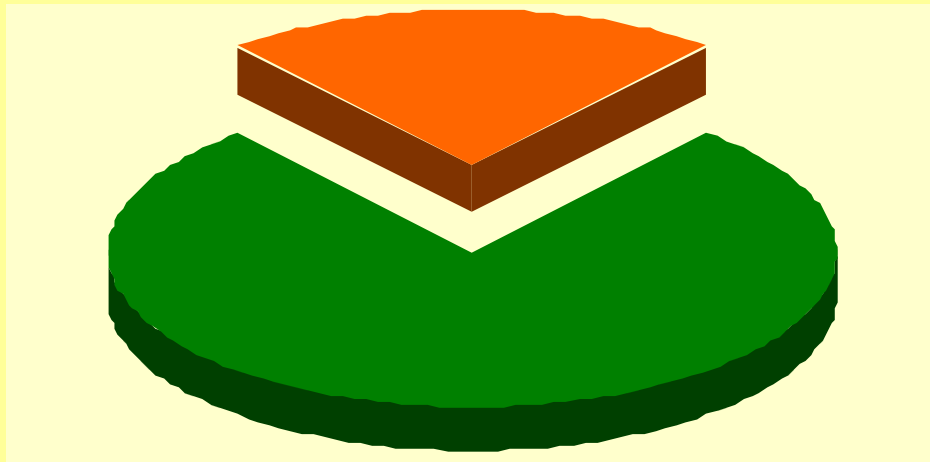
The total earnings of scrap collectors in Pune amount to Rs.3.75 lakhs per day



1 % of the workforce is engaged in this sector

Average Per Capita Waste Generation in gms. Across Economic Classes

Dry
72
22%



TOTAL
326 gm.

Wet
254
78%





Pune Times - 26-3-99

Ragpickers threaten stir

A Reporter Nehru Stadium

THE ragpickers' association has warned of a state-wide agitation if the provisions of the unprotected workers' Act were not enforced within a month.

Mohan Nanaware, president of the Kagad Kach Patra Kashtakari Panchayat (KKPKP ragpickers association), told the *Pune Times* that state labour minister Sabir Shaikh had made a "non-serious" promise of introducing a law that would cover the ragpickers. Shaikh made the statement during a convention held here on Thursday.

Nanaware said the ragpickers would conduct a huge morcha in Mumbai and also court arrest if their demand was not accepted by the state government. "It is ulti-

mately a question of survival for the 2.5-lakh ragpickers in the state," he commented.

Nanaware said the association was trying to mobilise 75,000 ragpickers from Mumbai and about 10,000 from Pune. He pointed out that 90 per cent of the ragpickers were women, most of whom belonged to the Dalit and other scheduled castes. This workforce segregated as much as 300 tonnes of garbage every day in the city, he added.

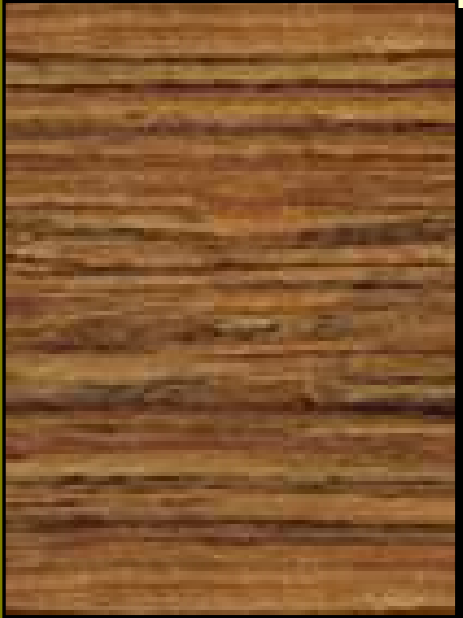
Referring to the Surat pattern for ragpickers initiated by the Gujarat government, Nanaware said the Surat-based Seva Dham organisation had successfully demanded that labour laws be made applicable to the ragpickers too.

The ragpickers' movement was gaining strength, said Nanaware, adding that in Mumbai the agitation for seeking identity-cards for this workforce was initiated by RPI leader Ramdas Athawale. However, he lamented that despite the initial push, the agitation was not sustained.

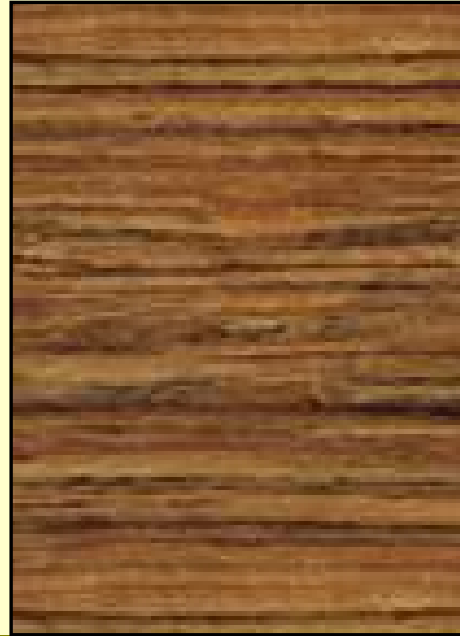
Earlier, during the convention, Shaikh assured that he would sympathetically consider the demands of the ragpickers' association. He also agreed to hold a dialogue with Dr Baba Adhav on the issues of provident fund, medical and other statutory benefits for the ragpickers. Contributions to these benefits would be made by the scrap traders and the government, he said.

Average Weights of Garbage Collected Daily in Pune

863 MT



884 MT



Actual Average Weights (3 Day Survey)

Estimated Average Weights









The
Sunday

EXPRESS

from Ahmedabad | Chandigarh | Delhi | Jammu | Lucknow | Mumbai | Nagpur | New York | Pune | Vadodara

www.expressindia.com

* CITY | PUNE | SEPTEMBER 29, 2002 | 36 PAGES | Rs 2.00

A city agrees to pay medical bills of those who clean it up

Pune corporation to offer medical insurance to ragpickers after an ILO study and a unique campaign

SAIKAT DATTA
PUNE | SEPTEMBER 28

OF the estimated 1,000 tonnes of trash that this city generates every day, they pick up 250 tonnes. Finally, the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has acknowledged the role played by its 3,650 registered ragpickers and in what

is a first in the country, has agreed to extend medical insurance cover to them.

Cleared by Municipal Commissioner T C Ben-

NEWS POSITIVE

jamin, the decision is awaiting final clearance from the standing committee. "I have cleared the docket for 3000

odd ragpickers and set aside Rs 2.5 lakhs," Benjamin told *The Sunday Express*.

The ragpickers will get an annual cover of Rs 5,000 per head with the civic body picking up the tab for the premiums. The bill, says New India Assurance Co. Ltd comes to a neat Rs 2.78 lakhs — a small

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

amount considering the contribution made by them in keeping the city clean.

"They lift nearly 200 tons of garbage everyday and are exposed to hazardous diseases. This will ensure that they get in-patient care in hospitals," says Benjamin.

Benjamin's landmark decision comes two years after an International Labour Organisation study and a unique programme of advocacy by the ragpickers themselves.

The ILO study identified Pune ragpickers as a high-risk group prone to health hazards. Earning Rs 30 per head per day, ragpickers are vulnerable to TB, respiratory

problems, muscular-skeletal problems, scabies and other skin diseases.

The ILO study was conducted by Poornima Chikermane, Lakshmi Narayan and Medha Deshpande, associated with the SNDT College's department of adult education.

The study covered 252 scrap collectors and 72 scrap traders.

The association started lobbying with the PMC two years ago for the medical insurance. The association also lobbied with housing societies to allow ragpickers to pick up garbage from the homes for a monthly charge of Rs 20.