

Soilink waste management

Presentation at Venture Center, Pune



Effect of open defecation on environment, specially in pilgrimage

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- Himalayan **Char Dham**, Badrinath, Kedarnath, **Gangotri** and **Yamunotri**.
- Varanasi/Kashi,
- Allahabad/**Prayag**,
- Haridwar-Rishikesh, Mathura-Vrindavan, and Ayodhya
- Pandharpur wari

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The ladies from Saswad said this to us:

“ We have to buy milk, vegetables, grocery and medicines sufficient for one week, before the first warkari enters Saswad”

For one week after the pilgrims leave, Saswad is full of bad smell, full of flies and dirt. We can not step out of the house to buy things or go and meet anybody outside.

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- They also told us that school grounds, outside all the compounds there are double or triple lines of feces or excrement.
- The local bodies sprinkle some white powder so that flies are not attracted; but still it remains wet for at least a few days.
- By mistake anybody walking on it, is sure to slip and get the bone fractured. Hence people avoid going out.

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- When we were told about this fact; we rushed back to Pune, got about 350 kgs of enzyme powder ready in gunny bags; Saswad authorities sent an ambulance and got it collected from us.
- The powder was to be spread on fecal matter and that is it. The smell disappeared and important thing is; it dried quickly. A day after, all fecal moulds were swept away.

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- Next day there was a news in the local paper

“सासवडकरांची दुर्गन्धीतून
चटकन सुटका”

- Bad smell, slippery roads, awful sites apart there are many health related issues associated with this event; when the pilgrimage passes through any village.

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- With an aim of reducing open defecation, initiatives like “Nirmal wari”; NGOs sending volunteers with wari, the situation is improving.
- The government floats the tender for providing toilet service to pilgrims on the wari way. The tender amount is Rs. 2 crores/-. At present “Sulabh” and “3S” are the two companies; which bid for it.

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- There are tanks provided with the toilet, where the accumulated fecal output is stored.
- It is then said to be transported to the local STP facility to dispose off.
- The fact is every village on pilgrim path does not have a STP facility. Then what to do?
- Either dig the trenches and empty the tank in it or empty the tank in a flowing water body near by

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- What is the effect of it?
- If the trenches are created and tank is emptied in it, liquid part starts penetrating. If the solid part goes in with soil friendly crumbling agent like microbial enzyme powder, it turns into compost quickly.
- Else, over the period; the ground water pollutes, it contains pathogens, nitrogen levels go up

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- Open defecation on pilgrimage path not only affects, water, soil and air quality but also causes various diseases, most notably diarrhea, intestinal worm infections, also typhoid, cholera, hepatitis, polio, trachoma, and others
- There are NGOs working on sanitation, which cover “open defecation problem and solution” as one of the major subjects, however it contains organic waste hence it is a subject for organic waste management solution providers also, right now it is not largely covered.
- There is a Swedish company, which produces
“ PeePoo Bags ”

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How to use the Peepoo toilet



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Children use Peepoo bags



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The Peepoo School Program emphasizes the awareness and good practices in daily personal hygiene as well as social awareness through hygiene training for



school children and staff via workshops, training sessions and the

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Thank you!