



# CONTENTS

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<b>1</b>	Preface	4
	Founder's Note	6
	Preamble of the Manifesto	8
	About Us	10
	Our Projects	18
<b>2</b>	<b>Section - 1</b>	<b>22</b>
	What is a manifesto?	22
	Why a manifesto?	22
	Vision of the manifesto	23
	Mandate of the committee	24
	Flow of committee	25
	Example response on google form	27
	Terms to familiarise	28
	<b>Section - 2</b>	
	Mumbai - an overview	29
	<b>Section - 3</b>	
	What is an Issue?	30
	Flow of Events	32
	Plan of Action: Phase 1	33
	Plan of Action: Phase 2	34
	Plan of Action: Phase 3	35
	Summary of the Movement	36

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>	<b>37</b>
	<b>City</b>	<b>39</b>
	Issues	40
	Demands	54
	Detailed Note For City	69
	<b>Public Health</b>	<b>73</b>
	Issues	74
	Demands	89
	Detailed Note For Health	102
	<b>Environment</b>	<b>106</b>
	Issues	107
	Demands	128
	Detailed Note For Environment	140
<b>4</b>	<b>Methodology Of The Youth Manifesto In Detail</b>	<b>144</b>
	Way Forward With The Manifesto	146
	Conclusion	148

# PREFACE

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Mumbai, known as the city of dreams and the financial capital of the country, houses one of the largest youth populations among metropolitan cities. The Youth Manifesto is an initiative by Mark Your Presence, aiming to unite the forces of the youth and provide them with a platform to express their individual aspirations. Through this manifesto, we aspire to be the catalyst for the change we wish to see and articulate the concerns we hope our leaders will address. Moreover, the Youth Manifesto serves as a guide for us to become responsible agents of civic change and shape the development of our city.

This study guide comprises several sections designed to address your fundamental queries and assist you in effectively participating in the youth forum. It has been created through the collaborative efforts of numerous individuals who have delved into various domains of Mumbai to provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the city's current state and its potential to cater to your needs.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support and acknowledge the pivotal role you play in striving for change, thereby making this city a better place for all of us.

Team,  
Mark Your Presence

# FOUNDER'S NOTE

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Dear reader,

I am delighted to address you as the founder of this organization and a civil rights advocate. It brings me great joy to witness the energy and potential you possess in making a significant impact on our society.

Our organization's mission is clear: to empower youth like you to become effective leaders and catalysts for change. We understand that your perspectives, ideas, and actions are vital in addressing the pressing challenges our communities face.

In this youth manifesto, we lay the foundation for a new era of leadership that centres around your needs, aspirations, and concerns. It is our duty to equip you with the necessary tools, knowledge, and support to lead and create a positive impact in your communities.

We believe in the power of your engagement. As young individuals, you possess an unparalleled ability to envision a better future and actively work towards it. Through initiatives focused on civic participation, community development, and policy advocacy, we aim to empower you to become the change-makers our society needs.

This manifesto is a call to action, an invitation for you to step forward and embrace your potential. It is an opportunity to raise your voices, share your insights, and actively participate in shaping the policies and initiatives that directly affect your lives.

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Leadership is not confined to formal titles; it is about taking initiative and making a difference. I firmly believe that each of you has the qualities and capabilities required to lead with integrity, empathy, and a profound sense of purpose. We are committed to nurturing your leadership skills, providing mentorship, and fostering a supportive network that will amplify your impact.

As we embark on this journey together, let us remember the power of unity and collaboration. By embracing diversity and inclusivity, we can harness collective intelligence to develop innovative solutions to our society's most complex problems.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for joining us on this path. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and unwavering commitment to creating positive change inspire me every day. Together, we have the potential to create a ripple effect that will shape the future of our society.

In conclusion, I urge you to embrace this manifesto as your guiding light, your compass, and your source of inspiration. Let it serve as a constant reminder of your immense potential to drive change and overcome civic challenges. Remember, true leadership begins with self-belief, and by embracing your power, you can become the architects of a better tomorrow.

Thank you for embarking on this transformative journey with us. Together, let's unleash the power of youth leadership and build a brighter future for generations to come. With deep respect and admiration,

Chaitanya Prabhu  
Founder  
Mark Your Presence

# PREAMBLE OF THE MANIFESTO

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We, the youth of Mumbai, driven by a shared commitment to the prosperity and well-being of our community and future generations, hereby present this manifesto as a collective vision for positive change. Inspired by our passion, energy, and desire to contribute meaningfully to society, we have come together to articulate our aspirations, concerns, and demands.

As the torchbearers of tomorrow, we acknowledge the challenges that our city faces today. From environmental degradation and healthcare disparities to educational inequities and urban development, we recognize the urgent need for transformative action. We firmly believe that the youth hold the power to catalyze change and steer our community toward a brighter, more equitable future.

This manifesto reflects our collective resolve to address these challenges head-on. It is a testament to our commitment to fostering a city that is sustainable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of all its inhabitants. We envision a city where the air is clean, the waters are pristine, healthcare is accessible to all, education is empowering, and opportunities are abundant.

In this manifesto, we present our demands and proposals across various thematic areas, each of which holds immense significance for our community's well-being. Our proposals are grounded in research, shaped by expert insights, and enriched by the diverse perspectives of our peers. We call upon our fellow citizens, community leaders, policymakers, and institutions to join us in turning these proposals into reality.

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This manifesto is not just a document but a commitment, a commitment to collective action, to hold our leaders accountable, and to work tirelessly toward a brighter future. As we present this manifesto, we invite everyone to stand with us, to engage in meaningful dialogue, and to work collaboratively toward the realization of our shared vision.

Together, as a united force, we can overcome the challenges that face our city and build a community that reflects the values of compassion, sustainability, and progress. Let this manifesto serve as a testament to our dedication to shaping a better future for ourselves and generations to come.

## *a. Who we are*

The civil rights movements across the world changed the way we identify ourselves in today's world thus, making voting one of the most important precursors to shaping and reforming our present. With growing violence, poverty, climate change and need for reform in education and sciences; Voting becomes our only peaceful tool in this fight.

Mark Your Presence was founded on the idea that we can create more change in our country if we work together. We are a non-profit and non-partisan organisation. Our aim is to create a positive change by reaching out to the youth and every citizen of the country on relevant issues that we are negligent about.

Our mission is to reach out to the youth of our country and make them aware about the democratic process and the importance of participating in it. We believe that, it's important to make the citizens who are under 18 years of age aware, as they will be the future voters of our country.

We also enroll all the citizens who are above the age of 18 so that they can actively participate in the elections in years to come. We understand that the power of the youth is not only important but also vital in shaping the course of any democracy and therefore having educated, politically aware voter's is crucial for our democracy.

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Mark Your Presence has conducted seminars in colleges, which are affiliated with Mumbai University, Symbiosis University, and other private universities. Over the last year, we have registered over 44,500 new voters for the 2024 elections. We have been registering and educating voters since the 2019 in the Lok Sabha, MP elections, MLA elections in Mumbai and Delhi. Registration is only the first step of our campaign and the goal will be achieved only once we educate students at large about their right to vote and assist them.

We have created a voter's manual which will help each individual understand the process of voting which includes the essential things a voter needs to do before they go out to vote, and also educates the voter about their constituency and the role of the Member of Parliament, MLA, and Corporator. We not only register new voters but also follow up with the concerned BLO officers whenever there is a problem. On our website, the voters can track their voter ids, check if their name is on the Electoral roll, check their polling stations and also find out detailed information of their nearest election office.

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## *b. Our Story*

Mark Your Presence was founded on the pillars of change and commitment to democracy to bring about a political order that is participatory and progressive. Chaitanya Prabhu founded the organisation in 2018 as an ode to his 100-year-old grandfather's commitment to practise the right that people of this country lay their lives for. He envisioned an organisation that would remind young people of the journey we as a nation took to make this tryst with democracy as our destiny.

Chaitanya is passionate for the cause of strengthening Indian democracy and sees voting as a way to honour the ones who struggled for that right to vote. Chaitanya's inspiration comes from his grandfather who is 100 years old and has been voting since India gained independence. He believes that if his grandfather can go and vote in every poll so can the youth of India. So, when he learnt that most of his friends do not have a voter ID required to register their vote, the 20-year-old Chaitanya Prabhu took it upon himself to register his peers on the voters' list. He thought that if educated voters voted in large numbers, our democracy would look much different. This motivated him to consult electoral experts to understand the voter registration process. He identified that while the majority of the population opts for an offline registration process as a common practice, it takes only seven minutes to complete the registration if it is done online.

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Learning from his experience, Chaitanya prepared a SOP for a step-by-step registration process for his friends and registered more than 350 voters within a span of three weeks. Taking note of the daily increase in registrations, Chaitanya founded the Mark Your Presence organisation and crowdsourced funds to create a website for MYP before the 2019 general elections in India. The website ([www.mark your presence.org.in](http://www.markyourpresence.org.in)) acts as a one stop solution for every voter. Through his website, voters can track their voter identification cards, contact details of their polling station, electoral list, and access guides to educate them about the constituency and role of their elected representatives.

Chaitanya has demonstrated true selflessness in his activities – filling hundreds of voter registration forms; conducting seminars across different slums and universities – whilst balancing his studies in law and competing at national sports tournaments.

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### *c. Mission*

Our mission is to reach out to the youth of our country and enrol all the citizens above the age of 18 so that they can actively participate in the 2024 election and in the election in years to come. The power of the youth is not only important but also vital in shaping the course of any democracy. More than 50 per cent of India's population is below the age of 25, and more than 65 percent is below the age of 35. Harnessing these young citizens of our county to participate in democratic processes and contribute positively for the development of the Country is an essential requirement. We at Mark your presence is working to make voting more interesting for the youth of India, we run microtargeted voter campaigns which have resulted in increase in voter awareness and voter turnout in the city.

Our Founder, Chaitanya Prabhu has been registering and educating voters since 2018 and reached more than 34,500 voters throughout his campaign. He was successful in registering 10,000 voters in the last general elections and assembly elections in India. As a result of his hard work, he created an impact in the life of more than 10,000 young eligible voters by enabling them to cast their informed vote.

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#### *d. Organisation Structure*

Mark your presence is a programme that registers young voters and educates them about their right to vote. Our goal is to make registering a continuous activity rather than just an issue that is discussed during elections. We employ cutting-edge technology and creative approaches to increase the number of educated voters in our democracy. We teach and register young voters in institutions, which we refer to as democracy courses in schools and universities.

The organisation is divided into two sections, the first of which is the leadership fellowship and the second of which is the research fellowship. Both sections of the organisation are dedicated to raising voter awareness and improving voter registration and turnout. The team is made up of students that want to help establish a stronger democracy. The team now has twenty-five core members and 480 volunteers. Chaitanya Prabhu, the organisation's founder, is a lawyer with a masters degree in public policy from St Xaviers.

Everyone in the group is a student with a great desire to contribute to the strengthening of Indian democracy. The organisation and its founder, Chaitanya Prabhu, has been awarded by the United Nations India and felicitated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for his contributions to youth empowerment. This year, the organisation and its founder were also honoured with the Diana International Award, the greatest honour given for humanitarian efforts. The award was founded in honour of Diana, Princess of Wales, and is given out by the charity of the same name, which has the backing of both of her sons, the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Sussex.



*Some of our work entails:*

- 1. Holding democracy classes in institutions*
- 2. Organising voter registration drives in mumbai and Delhi*
- 3. Setting up Electoral literacy clubs in collges*
- 4. Organising voter education and voter awareness programs*
- 5. Creating voter guides and Manuals for voters of mumbai and Delhi*
- 6. Community campaign to make people more sensitive towards voting. Rap for your rights and dance for your rights.*
- 7. Run surveys to understand voting patterns and voter behaviour.*
- 8. Working on establishing VAF*
- 9. Working towards making institutions voter friendly*
- 10. Drafting of youth manifesto for the city of mumbai. We hold youth forums to give a voice to the youth.*
- 11. Bridging the gap between people and their representatives through policy and communication engagement.*
- 12. Research on law and policy to build a better ecosystem thr youth*
- 13. Working on Women's Heath.*
- 14. It's Organising climate walks and talks in the city*
- 15. Organise debates and discussions around voting and democracy.*
- 16. Run a newsletter called your presentative for the students of mumbai.*

# OUR PROJECTS

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## **a. *Rap for your rights***

4 Rappers 3 Languages 1 Mission 1 Aim - YOUR VOTE

Mark Your Presence organised the first ever apolitical rap campaign in Mumbai to encourage young people across the city to register and cast their votes. Four young rappers namely from the slums of Mumbai collaborated with the organisation to conceive VOTE KARA, MATDAAN KAR, PEHLA VOTE PEHLA PYAAR, DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTES. The performances were well received by the audiences both offline and online, especially the youth. The event at Khar social, Mumbai was inaugurated by the Chief Editor of Rolling Stones Nirmika Singh in 2019.

## **b. *She Votes***

Mark Your Presence is committed to a progressive democracy where voices are heard and change is possible; however, we are well aware of the disparities in public discourse based on various parameters in society. The commitment to equality gave way to the campaign 'She Votes' focussing on the role of women and the importance of their vote. This was the third campaign launched by the organisation and focused on encouraging women to not only vote but claim their space in public discourses and politics.

## **c. *Dance for your rights***

After a successful campaign using performing art as a medium to communicate the importance of the vote, Mark Your Presence endeavoured to step it up as it brought together 100 dancers from across the city to channelise their medium of movement to paint the message of voting and its importance. The aim of the campaign was to engage young people and diversify the approach to advocating for voting and registering to do the same.

## **d. *Democracy class/drive***

The Democracy drive is a testimony to the vision of Mark Your Presence: to disseminate information on voting and its importance. The mission of the campaign was to register young and coming voters by visiting colleges and engaging them to increase electoral participation in the city of Mumbai. Mark Your presence launched the largest drive of the city with NSS units Mumbai University with over 56 colleges and 480 volunteers registering voters. This drive was launched for inclusion in SSR.

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**e. *Art for your rights***

With this art movement we connected voting to art and democracy so as to try to communicate our message to the public at large. The idea is to connect art and culture as a way to express our views. There are a lot of people who are not vocal about their rights but are extremely efficient at expressing their feelings through art. For this movement, forms of art are categorised as: Oil/Acrylic on canvas, sketching, graphically represented art and sculptures, and digital art forms. The best artwork will be awarded by the CEO's office.

**f. *Write for your rights***

We are of the opinion that freedom of expression is the most important pillar of our democracy and that there are only a few who are vocal about their rights. This challenge was created for those who adapt to writing as a form of expression to express their views. We believe writing plays an instrumental role in expressing one's thoughts and could be used to spread awareness.

**g. *Speak for your rights***

A platform created for young students to debate and discuss the importance of their rights.

**h. *Mark Your Presence with Chaitanya Prabhu***

Introducing Mark Your Presence with Chaitanya Prabhu, weekly podcast, where I dive deep into what democracy means and how we as voters can strengthen Indian democracy. You can find this podcast on Spotify.

**i. *Your Representative***

Your Representative is a monthly newsletter launched by Mark Your Presence as a platform to engage in civic debates, bridge the gap between the constituents and their elected representatives and take cognizance of the concerns of the people. Your representative has contributors from across the city engaging and participating with topics of civic importance and seeking accountability from their representatives. It is an initiative to build a connection between the masses and the changemakers of the city. It covers the stories of young changemakers, innovators, and talented young individuals from the field of art, sports, politics.

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***j. Hakkachi Paali***

It is a movement to draft mumbai first people's first people's menstrual policy. The policy explores the gap between the policy/ programs and the implementation.

***k. Books for all***

It has come to our notice that a few students are finding it difficult to buy educational books for their respective courses due to the lack of finances. In light of these recent events, we would like to encourage every person to donate their books to help us, help them. Kindly help by donating your old and used books on the Google link given below. All the books will be forwarded to those in need. You will be notified when a person is given your book. (Educational books or any book that you would want to donate) <https://forms.gle/4ucPsJ5UNC9Sbo947>

***l. Youth Manifesto***

The youth manifesto movement is aiming to ignite energy and bring people together, break down barriers and encourage collaboration among long-time Youth advocates, environmentalists, activists, emerging leaders, artists, policymakers, young leaders, politicians, and academics all in one city. In order to inspire continuous change, we must invest in youth leadership and harness young people's collective power and energy. We are excited as a movement to announce the youth manifesto as a space for youth-led accountability.

***m. Installation at Kala Ghoda***

Mark Your Presence at our installation till 28th of Jan 2024.

For the first time ever the Kala Ghoda festival approved a proposal from "Mark Your Presence" to have an installation exclusively dedicated to the country's youth and their involvement in the democratic processes. The concept was designed by architect designer Chandrashekar Prabhu. The clinched fist represents the power of the youth, with the bracelet band around the wrist signifying their friendship and unity, and the finger marked with indelible ink is symbolic of their involvement in the democratic processes. The theme is to inspire the country's youth to unite and collectively utilise their power for the protection of democracy. The installation has been fabricated by Murtikar Santosh Kambli, the famous sculptors who make "Lalbaug cha Raja" idol of Ganpati. I came, I saw, I registered, I voted. We are running the largest public voter drive at our installation.

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- **LEADERSHIP FELLOWS**

The Mark Your Presence leadership initiative is a six-month intensive program with the election commission of Maharashtra for university students who are keen to build a stronger Democracy with educated voters. The program is designed to deliver core skills in public leadership along with the experience of working with an organisation that works towards making every institution in the country a voter-friendly campus.

- **RESEARCH FELLOWS – LEGAL FELLOWSHIP**

The Mark Your Presence legal fellowship initiative is a six-month intensive program for university students who have the desire to build a stronger ecosystem for students. The program is designed to deliver core skills in research and public leadership along with the experience of working with an organisation that works towards making every institution in the city a student friendly campus.

# SECTION 1

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## **1. *What is a Manifesto?***

A manifesto is a published declaration that presents the hopes, aspirations, intentions, motives, or views of a group of people. In the context of the Youth Manifesto, it is a document that expresses the demands and concerns of the youth in Mumbai, aiming to bridge the gap between the youth and their representatives.

## **2. *Why a Manifesto?***

A manifesto serves as a tool to communicate the desires and aspirations of a specific group or community. It provides a platform for young people to voice their concerns and engage in civic change. By drafting a youth manifesto, the aim is to create a document that represents the needs of the youth population and influences decision-making processes.

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### **3. *Vision of the Youth Manifesto***

As it stands true to history, collective action has driven change and Manifestos a living testament to its vision. A manifesto is a published declaration of the hopes, aspirations, intentions, motives, or views of a people. We at Mark Your Presence have envisioned the Youth Forum. The Youth Forum is a city-wide non-partisan movement driven by young people to draft the first ever youth manifesto, of its kind for the city of Mumbai. The forum shall primarily dive into the issues and demands of young people in regard to Health, Environment and Administrative Infrastructure.

The aim is to bridge the gap between the youth and their representatives with the help of a declaration of demands. The impact and engagement of the forum is going to be two-fold: public meetings followed by a youth forum. The public meetings are a sincere attempt to reach the youth of every constitutional assembly of Mumbai; to not only note their concerns but also aspirations.

These assemblies are an attempt to bridge the gap in the system, create more participation which in turn would create a process of accountability. This manifesto will represent what the people want, and if parties aid candidates that can guarantee the desires and aspirations from the youth manifesto, they may be able to gain more support from the younger generation. This will also provide an opportunity for our representatives to learn about the changes that people want to see in their city, providing yet another reason for voters to turn out in greater numbers in the upcoming BMC elections. We aim to give young people a reason to vote and engage in the democratic process.

The youth manifesto movement is aiming to ignite energy and bring people together, break down barriers and encourage collaboration among long-time Youth advocates, environmentalists, activists, emerging leaders, artists, policymakers, young leaders, politicians, and academics all in one city. In order to inspire continuous change, we must invest in youth leadership and harness young people's collective power and energy. We are excited as a movement to announce the youth manifesto as a space for youth-led accountability.

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- ***Mandate of the Committee***

This section will focus on the specifics of the scope of discussion in each committee. For example, the multi defitional nature of public health as a concept may prove to be an impediment in streamlining debate and solutions. Following is the mandate for each forum:

- 1. Forum on Public Health:***

Public Health may be defined as Public Health is defined as “the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organised efforts of society” (Acheson, 1988; WHO). These collective efforts must be envisioned by the state in order to ensure affordability and accessibility to health care and services for its citizens. The covid-19 pandemic exposed the crippling state of health infrastructure in the city as it was overwhelmed by the pouring cases of covid-19. These extraordinary situations have made us aware of the most ordinary necessities of the residents of Mumbai and the health worker community. Issues related to cost of health care, response to covid, safety of health care workers and medical students may be discussed at the forum.

- 2. Forum on Environment:***

The scope of the forum on Environment will cater to effects of human activity, state sanctioned or otherwise on the natural ecosystem of Mumbai. The issues may range from Aarey forest to redevelopment projects to the coastal road to saving the mangroves. The forum may also seek accountability on various development projects initiated by governments in order to discontinue them after assessing their environmental cost. The idea behind a specific forum on environment is to demand changes from those in power to make the system compliable to sustainable lifestyles which is the need of the hour.

- 3. Forum on city infrastructure & administration:***

The forum on the city will have a wide scope of discussion and drafting of demands. As the name suggests, issues of infrastructure such as roads, public spaces etc may be brought up in discourse. Simultaneously, the issues of administrative efforts made by the BMC may also be brought up to demand change or additions. Housing problems, water supply, mobility etc. are some of the issues among many that may be discussed in the forum to demand a safe and accessible city and infrastructure that also caters to its young population.

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- ***Flow of Committee***

The conference will be divided into a number of sessions depending on the length of the conference, with each session not exceeding a duration of 3 hours 30 minutes, inclusive of opening and closing statements as well as issues to discuss and issues to break. The candidate will be given more than 8 days to research on their issue and demands.

1. An introduction to the rules and regulations of the forum
2. After the opening statements, the candidates will put forward their demands and issues that they want to speak about in the forum.
3. Note - Each member/ candidate will have to give 5 issues and 3 demands each in writing before the forum. The candidate will have to talk about these issues and demands in their opening speech.
4. After the chair receives the list of issues and demands, the chair will review these documents. In the time that the chair reviews their demands and issues, the candidates will be allowed to discuss their draft in groups while the chairs group these issues and demands in a methodological manner.
5. Note - Candidates will represent their allocated assemblies in their specific committees. This means there will be at least one person representing 36 constituencies of Mumbai.
6. The experts of every committee would be invited to speak on the topic specific to the committee. The experts would also be given an idea on what was spoken and written in the committee by the chairs.

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- ***Only if time allows:***

The candidates will be allowed to introduce some new issue as listed in their draft. The chair will ask the candidates if there are issues that they would like to raise. The forum as a whole shall vote on the order of discussion for the enlisted issues that will be raised by participants of the forum.

- ***Only if time allows:***

When there are issues to raise, 90 second speeches will commence in alphabetical order of the candidate present in the committee. In such situations, the Candidates may yield all of their time, but only to the moderator, following which, the moderator will move onto the participant representing the district next on the list. After a couple of Candidates have spoken or yielded their time, the Chair will ask the committee for issues once again. Any remaining time in any speech may be used by the Chair to ask the candidate if they have any questions in the context of that particular speech only.

- ***The chair may conduct:***

Formal debate in the committee to counter candidates' views on each other's constituency before any voting process.

- ***After the discussion of the issues:***

The candidates will vote on the issues and demands they have raised in the forum.

- ***Language:***

All speeches will be in English, Hindi, or Marathi only. Translators will be provided if required. The final outcome of the committee would be a list of demands of young people residing in Mumbai to be drafted, with the assistance of the moderators if so required, in English, Hindi, and Marathi. There are no rules governing how a motion / Issue must be phrased, that is up to the discretion of the Candidate, as long as it covers all the requirements as stated above.

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## **Example response of Google Forms:**

- **Rules and Regulations:**

This section will include the basic rules of participation and Conduct. It is also to establish the basic rules of procedure and to familiarise the participants with the flow of general discussion and discourse in the committee.

- **Qualifications to enter**

Candidate should be a bona fide resident of Mumbai.

- **Disqualifications**

No Candidate will use discriminatory language in committee. Doing so could lead to them being not allowed to speak in committee.

Language that enforces a gender binary is highly discouraged, and instead, a gender-neutral language is highly encouraged. E.g.: Using “they/them” instead of he/she, using “people” instead of “men and women” or “people of both genders”.

- **Moderator and Functions:**

There will be a total of three moderators. Among the three of them, there should be proficiency in English, Hindi, and Marathi to ensure comfortable and inclusive communication with candidates. The role of the Chair is to steer the committee by recognising candidates to speak and raise issues, managing committee time, allowing for questions when there is time to yield, collating solutions from all participants, and presenting a comprehensive solution proposal document to the ministry. The Candidates will also have to ensure there is no unparliamentary language used by participants, especially when referring to another candidate. Moderators must help create an inclusive and respectful environment and ensure there is no use of discriminatory language or gestures or the like against any delegate or any marginalised community.

## ***Terms to familiarise:***

- ***Opening Statement:***

An opening statement is meant to be an introduction to the participant's perspective on the topic being discussed. In the very first session's opening statements, participants may introduce themselves and the issues of importance to them, as well as discuss how their wants have been affected by the problem. The first opening statement may also be used to mention the topics/Issue the participant would like to discuss throughout the length of the conference. Opening statements of consecutive sessions may be used to mention the topics participants would like to discuss in that particular session. Opening statements will be a minute each and there is no rule on the contents of the statement. The order of the statements will be in alphabetical order of participants that are in the committee.

- ***Closing Statement:***

A closing statement is meant to summarise a participant's perspective on the topic discussed in that session. The participant may use this as an opportunity to mention the direction the committee should take and the topics they could discuss in the forthcoming sessions. Closing statements will be a minute each and there is no rule on the contents of the statement. The order of the statements will be in alphabetical order of participants that are in the committee.

- ***Issues:***

An issue is a proposal made by a candidate to have the committee make a certain decision. The purpose of issues is to guide the topic of discussion in each session. Candidates may raise an issue to discuss, which is a motion to dedicate a particular amount of time to a specific topic.

- ***Right To Respond:***

A participant may raise a "Right to Respond " when they have been referred to, they have been (mis)quoted, or they have been asked a question by another candidate in their speech and would like to clarify or respond. A right to respond should be raised immediately after the speech of the candidate they would like to respond to.

## SECTION 2

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### *Mumbai - an overview:*

Mumbai, the political powerhouse of India, boasts a significant political landscape. With a staggering number of constituencies, Mumbai is home to 36 constituencies and 227 wards, representing the diverse voices of its residents. The city holds a massive voting population, with millions of voters participating in the democratic process.

Notably, Mumbai's political landscape is shaped by its vibrant youth. Within the age group of 18-35, a substantial number of young individuals actively engage in politics, bringing fresh perspectives and dynamic ideas to the table.

In addition to its political significance, Mumbai is home to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), the largest civic body in India. BMC faces the monumental task of addressing numerous issues simultaneously, ranging from infrastructure development to public services. It plays a crucial role in shaping the city's future and addressing the needs of its ever-growing population.

However, over the years, the enthusiasm and political drive among the city's youth have witnessed a decline. It is imperative to reignite the spirit of political activism and empower the youth to actively participate in shaping Mumbai's destiny. By harnessing the energy and ideas of the young generation, Mumbai can revitalize its political landscape, creating a brighter future for all its residents.

# SECTION 3

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## ***What is an Issue?***

An issue, in the context of the youth manifesto, refers to a topic or problem that affects the youth population in Mumbai. It represents a specific area of concern that requires attention and action from the government or relevant authorities. Issues can range from social, economic, or environmental challenges to infrastructure-related problems. Identifying and framing these issues accurately is crucial to address them effectively and seek appropriate solutions.

## ***How to frame an Issue?***

Framing an issue involves expressing it in a clear and concise manner, highlighting its significance and impact on the youth. Here are some steps to frame an issue.

### ***Identify the problem:***

Begin by understanding the problem or challenge faced by the youth in a specific area. It could be related to health, environment, infrastructure, or any other relevant aspect.

### ***Research and gather information:***

Conduct thorough research to gather data, facts, and examples that support the existence and impact of the issue. This will help in substantiating your claims and making a strong case.

### ***Define the scope:***

Clearly define the boundaries and scope of the issue. Determine the specific aspects or sub-issues related to the main problem. This will help in focusing the discussion and formulating targeted solutions.

### ***State the impact:***

Describe the consequences and effects of the issue on the youth population. Highlight the challenges faced, potential risks, and negative outcomes resulting from the problem. This will create a sense of urgency and importance around the issue.

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### ***What is a solution?***

A solution is your strategic proposal to address a particular issue, and its scope extends beyond the boundaries of your committee. It's akin to a blueprint crafted by a youth policy maker to enhance the city's overall well-being. For instance, if there's a scarcity of green areas, your solution might involve the creation of expansive parks throughout Mumbai to enrich the urban landscape.

### ***What is a demand?***

A demand is essentially a request for change that goes beyond the confines of your committee's focus. It's a manifestation of your aspiration and demands need not be specific to committee. This could encompass enhanced Youth issues, educational facilities, women empowerment, unemployment, sports and all aspects that hold significance for advancement for the youth.

### ***Example:***

Issue (Health Committee): Limited accessibility to suitable spaces for physical activities within our neighbourhood.

Solution: Envision the initiation of a comprehensive "Citywide Recreational Spaces" project, converting underutilised locations into vibrant parks furnished with sports amenities and recreational areas. This endeavour will contribute to a healthier and more engaged city populace.

Demand: We want sports to be a subject that is taught and not a co-curriculum activity. Or We advocate for an augmentation of parks and sports facilities to serve the entirety of Mumbai's youth.

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## ***Flow Of Events***

### ***MISSION:***

Empowering youth voices and fostering civic engagement to create a more inclusive and sustainable future for Mumbai.

### ***VISION:***

To be the leading platform that amplifies the impact of young individuals and catalyzes positive change in society.

### ***PROPOSITION:***

Amplifying socio-political impact with collective action. Fostering, Civic Engagement on issues about Environment, Health and the city. Building Network and Opportunity.

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## **PLAN OF ACTION: PHASE 1**

The implementation process can be looked at in 7 different phases beginning with the launch to a post conference advocacy phase. They are:

- 1. *Launch of the Manifesto:*** a public event to formally introduce the vision and the need of the manifesto to the young people of Mumbai as a platform to enact a change they envision for their city. The launch shall be in the backdrop of some interesting panel discussions with change makers from across the city talking about their experiences and the catastrophic change a manifesto can bring about to the political landscape of Mumbai, when young people would finally take centre stage with their demands and needs to sustain in the city.
- 2. *Circulation of Forms:*** The medium for circulation of such forms shall be Google forms in collaboration with NSS units of various colleges across the city, Rotaract and ELC to name a few to understand what domains would young people be comfortable to talk about. We also ran surveys to understand voter behaviour of young voters.
- 3. *Committee names and material:*** After Analysing the survey, we decided to launch city, environment and health as those domains would garner more support. The team started the work on getting the material for the youth manifesto.

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## **PLAN OF ACTION Phase 2 –**

The implementation process can be looked at in 7 different phases beginning with the launch to a post-conference advocacy phase. They are:

- **Orientation of the Youth manifesto** - Meeting all students from all the Mumbai Zonal Divisions (MZDs).
- **Circulation of Forms:** The medium for the circulation of such forms shall be done by Google forms in collaboration with units of various colleges across the city.
- **Allocation of Committees:** The allocation of committees will be on a first come first serve basis. The organization envisions 3 committees of min 45 members each that shall be convened offline.

- **Drafting and circulation of research resources:**

All participants were sent a vision guide along with research resources in order to understand the intricacies of the youth forum and its rules of procedures. Each committee moderator drafted a short vision note establishing what essentially will be the flow of the discussion and the formulation of the demands of all participants based on real-time data, needs of young people as students, employees, social workers, and most importantly as citizens of Mumbai.

- **Focus group discussions & Workshops:** Focus group discussions were conducted and carried out online both as surveys as well as open forums to discuss the issues of importance to the youth of Mumbai and the need to be heard by people in governance. Consecutively, workshops were conducted by experts in the field of City, Health, Environment, and Governance in the hope to facilitate informed discussion on issues of importance during the forum.

- **Experts who Contributed to the Manifesto:**

Mr. Chandrasekhar Prabhu, Housing Expert, Urban planner, Architect. Former President of MHADA.

Dr. Avinash Supe, Former Dean of KEM, Medical Expert, Medical Researcher.

Mr. Stalin Dayanand, Founder of Vanshakti, Environmental Activist, Researcher.

These distinguished experts played a pivotal role in shaping the youth manifesto through their multifaceted contributions.

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Their involvement encompassed two significant endeavors: Facilitating expert workshops in their subject expertise which is city and infrastructure, environment and Health care respectively, they also spoke about crucial aspects of the manifesto for its contributors and meticulously vetting the document for comprehensive scrutiny. Their active participation during the forum for all students provided an opportunity for each committee to witness their profound understanding and grasp of the subject matter over the course of two days. Subsequently, the experts thoroughly examined the youth manifesto, comprehensively understanding each issue and demand articulated by young people, thereby providing their invaluable notes and insights, all of which have been meticulously recorded within the manifesto.

### ***PLAN OF ACTION Phase 3 –***

- ***Youth Forum 2023-2024:*** Voice out, Draft, Vote, and Present constitute the four pillars of the forum to create the Youth Manifesto. The 3 committees have been convened by young change makers mentored by experts in the area in order to fully commit to our idea of a youth-led movement in all capacities. The rules of procedure are enclosed in the guide. This conference was just 2 days long. Ideally, a conference such as this should be 2-3 days to have a substantive discussion and have a thoroughly discussed proposal of solutions to the problem made by the participants. Just for this pilot session, moderators played a big role in helping the participants formalize their solutions before they are sent to various stakeholders such as the ministry, various political parties, and civil society groups. This conference was spread over 2 days, in Lala Lajpat Rai institution.

- ***Release of the Manifesto and Advocacy:*** A very instrumental phase is to lobby with political parties to amalgamate the demands put forward by young people through the Youth Forum as a platform. This is wherein, various activists, and citizens shall advocate the assimilation of the demands of the young people in the party manifestos for the upcoming elections. The manifesto will be launched in presence of the chief electoral office.

## ***SUMMARY OF THE MOVEMENT***

1. The students were given an introduction to the rules and regulations of the movement. We had more than 867 students for this seminar.

The campaign focuses on drafting Mumbai's first people's youth manifesto in the areas of environment, city, and health. With the participation of 140+ colleges and over 800 volunteers, we launched the campaign at Lala Lajpat Rai College in Mumbai.

2. Then students were asked to research on 5 issues specific to their allocated committee which was (city, environment, health). They were also asked to put together 3 demands which were personal.

3. The students spoke about their respective issues and demands and then voted on them. We had more than 45 students in every committee that represented the 36 assemblies of Mumbai. More than 140 student representatives from over 100 colleges were there.

4. The mark your presence has put together all their issues, demands and consulted some experts on the topic and has formulated the youth manifesto.

# KEY ISSUES

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## **1. Employment:**

Graduates are actively seeking meaningful employment in the city, emphasizing the importance of opportunities aligned with their skills and aspirations.

## **2. Education and Placement Accountability:**

The placement system necessitates accountability measures, including mandatory placement reports, free student participation in placement cells, and intervention by Mumbai University and the Ministry of Higher Education in overseeing placements at private colleges and public colleges.

Essential revisions in attendance policies for Mumbai University and private universities, particularly in cases of health or family emergencies, with a call for institutions to provide alternative remedies and continuous support during challenging times.

## **3. Student Representation:**

A vital concern raised is the need for the revival of the students' union at Mumbai University. Proposals for conducting student elections hold the potential to empower the student body with a more influential voice in university affairs.

## **6. Urban Infrastructure:**

Suggestions to enhance urban infrastructure include leveling sidewalks for easier walking and allocating dedicated lanes for cyclist.

## **7. Public Transportation:**

Improvement of bus services, ensuring adherence to designated standing capacity, increasing bus frequency in high-demand areas, and prioritizing a comfortable experience for all passengers.

Advocacy for increased investment in better trains, considering the substantial daily commuter population of 61 lakh citizens.

## **8. Affordable Hostels:**

Recognizing the need for more affordable hostels near educational institutions to address housing challenges for students.

### 9. Financial Literacy Education:

Urgency in introducing financial literacy sessions in all educational institutions, where experts will impart knowledge about financial independence, savings, investments, and crucial insights on managing personal finances.

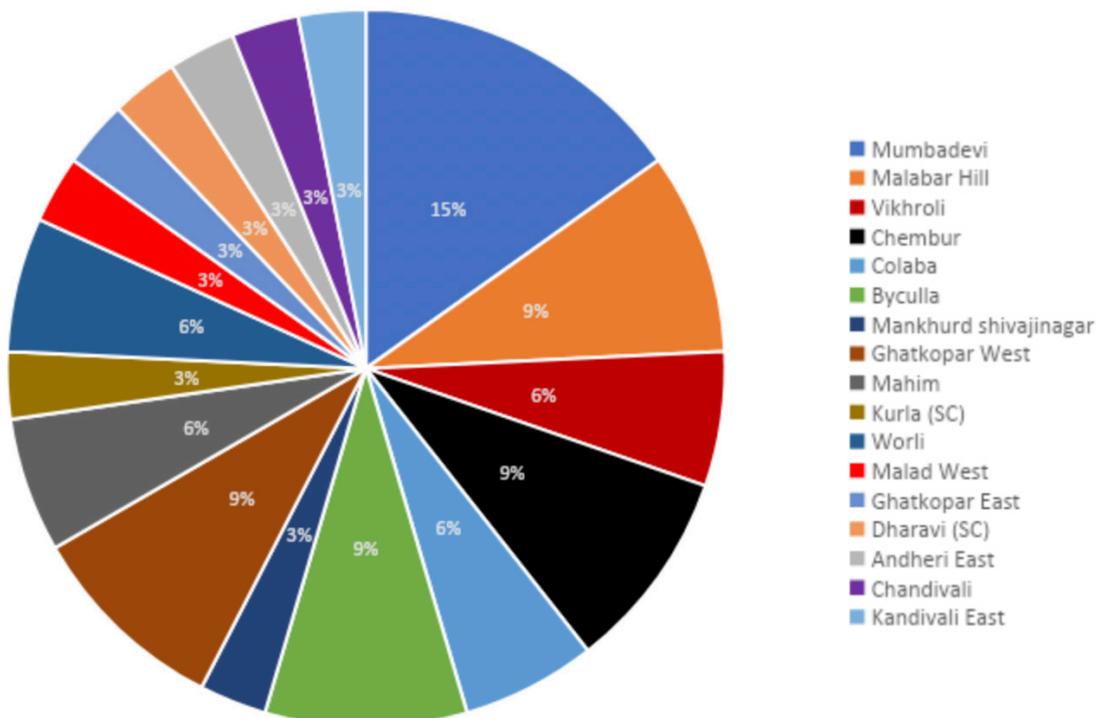
### 10. Voter Education in the Curriculum:

Stressing the importance of including voter education as a vital component of the syllabus. Ensuring that every institution imparts knowledge, fostering informed civic participation, recognizing it as an essential act of every citizen for meaningful societal reform.

### 11. Recreation and Public Spaces:

Proposal to increase open spaces for citizens, along with a reconsideration of restrictions on sitting in public areas post 1:30 am, allowing responsible enjoyment of public spaces like Marine Drive.

## CONSTITUENCY REPRESENTATION





## **ISSUES RELATED TO CITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE:**

## Poor Vehicle Management & Parking Systems

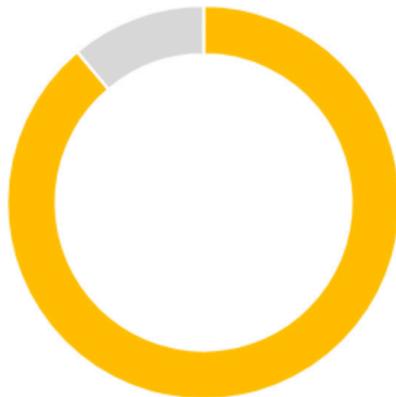
The absence of a sound parking policy clubbed with public ownership has unanimously emerged as the primary reason for unauthorised and illegal parking in many areas in Mumbai. Traffic management in a city like Mumbai which has magnanimous amounts of cars is crucial to ensure smooth and safe travelling within the city.

### Analysis:

Inadequate parking regulations lead to unauthorized and illegal parking, adding to traffic woes.

### Implication:

Sound parking policies and traffic management are essential for urban mobility and safety.



Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

### Experts Notes:

We are making more roads like the coastal roads which are in fact encouraging more vehicles to come – therefore its contradictory.

## Air & Noise Pollution

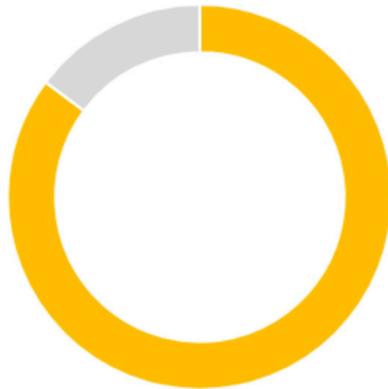
Areas around Chembur, Shivaji Nagar and Govandi are extremely polluted. The industries around the said areas pollute the air causing severe damage to the health of the people decreasing the average life expectancy. Traffic-jams often lead to incessant honking causing annoyance and noise pollution.

### Analysis:

Pollution in certain areas endangers residents' health and quality of - life.

### Implication:

Addressing pollution sources and promoting cleaner urban living are crucial.



Yes: **85%**

No: **15%**

## Promises Made During Elections To Improve The City And Lifestyle Of Citizens Are Not Fulfilled

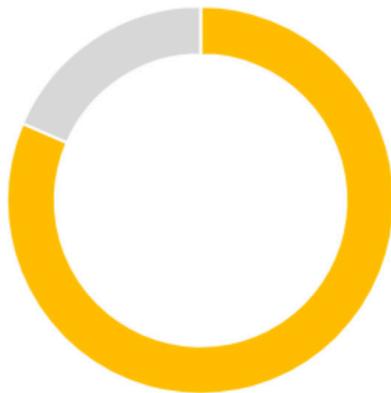
It is pointed out that political promises during elections raise hopes of the common people. The politicians make tall promises but don't have the inclination or capacity to implement the same.

### Analysis:

Unfulfilled political promises erode public trust in governance.

### Implication:

Accountability in fulfilling promises strengthens democracy and citizen engagement.



Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

### Experts Notes:

Only The Election Commission Can Tackle  
This or The Supreme Court

Reforms In Duties of The Election Commission.

## Lack Of Adherence to Cleanliness Norms and Rules Set by The State – Waste Pollution and Roads Itself Becoming Dumping Grounds for Waste

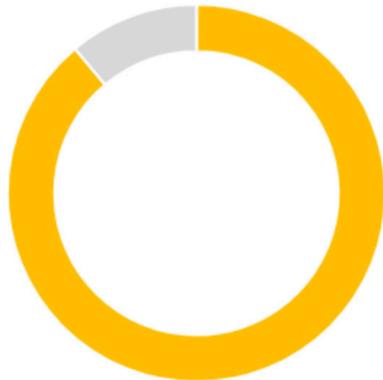
Solid Waste Disposal Rules framed by the Central Government are rendered ineffective by inefficiency of Local Bodies to act on the implementation of the rules. Parts of the city are riddled with issues of improper waste disposal resulting in diseases and unhygienic conditions.

**Analysis:**

Non-compliance with cleanliness norms results in waste pollution and unhygienic conditions.

**Implication:**

Strengthened waste management regulations promote clean cities.



Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

**Experts Notes:**

Adhere to the Rules

## Poor Quality Infrastructure of Bridges and Roads

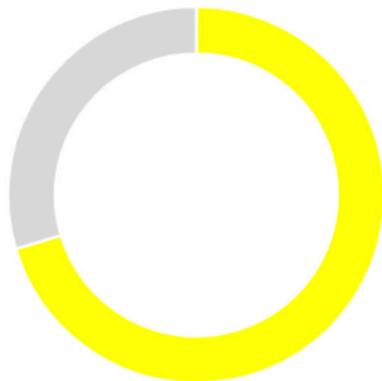
Speedy construction of bridges on roads compromises on the quality of the same. It is a well-known fact that Andheri Bridge has collapsed numerous times leading to casualties and a waste of government funds which can be used for better purposes.

### Analysis:

Substandard infrastructure poses safety risks and impacts transportation.

### Implication:

Quality construction and maintenance enhance safety and infrastructure resilience.



Yes: **70%**

No: **30%**

### Experts Notes:

Most bridges have already outlived their effective lifespan  
All bridges require revamping  
Taking a fresh look at priorities

## Lack of Trees/Greenery

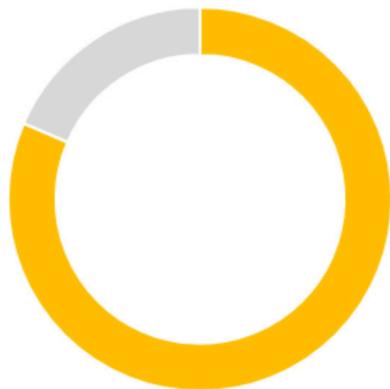
With the increasing concretization and lack of availability of open space, the flora and fauna of Bombay have taken a hit.

### Analysis:

Urbanization has reduced green spaces, affecting air quality and biodiversity.

### Implication:

Promoting urban forestry and green initiatives is vital for environmental balance.



Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

### Experts Notes:

Plant Trees

## Effects Of Mumbai Metro on The City

The humungous scale of the Mumbai Metro Projects comes with increased pollution levels, traffic jams due to narrower roads, noise pollution and immense overcrowding where the works persists.

### Analysis:

The massive Mumbai Metro projects bring environmental challenges and overcrowding.

### Implication:

Sustainable construction practices and integrated public transportation are essential.



Yes: **48%**

No: **52%**

### Experts Notes:

A ticket in metro is between 25-60 rupees, whereas a bus ticket starts at 5 rupees. Metro is meant for upper middle class & poor can't afford it.

The priority should be for the lower classes.

## Rapid Growth of Construction Eating into Open Spaces

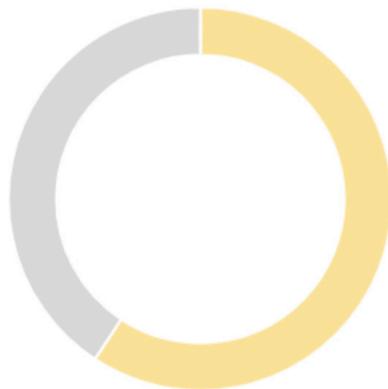
The dearth of open space is a well-known problem. Increase in construction is adding to this problem.

### Analysis:

Excessive construction has diminished open spaces, affecting urban greenery.

### Implication:

Preserving open spaces and greenery is vital for environmental balance and residents' well-being.



Yes: **59%**

No: **41%**

### Experts Notes:

There is a present policy that all open spaces should be given to private entities to maintain to take burden off the govt. – under this garb, these spaces are being usurped.

Should the municipal corp. Maintain these as open spaces?

Solution – The corporation should maintain the present green spaces.

## Corruption & Inequality In The Ration System

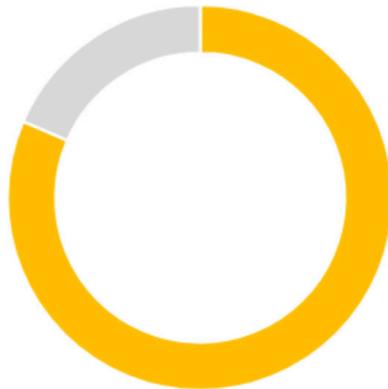
Ration Card holders don't get the quantity of grains that are promised to them. Sometimes the ration is adulterated with stones and other things to alter the weight of the ration which benefits the quantity left with the unethical vendors. Some shopkeepers also refuse to provide ration to the card holders.

### Analysis:

Corruption in the ration system affects food distribution and exacerbates inequality.

### Implication:

Transparent and fair ration distribution systems ensure food security for all.



Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

### Experts Notes:

Those Who Are Supposed to Benefit Are the Poor and Moneyless

The Vendors Today Misuse Their Power to Give Them Less Than What the People Are Promised. They also Manipulate the Records. For Ganpati – Every Resident Was to Get Discounted Grains – But No One Has Got it but In the Records It Was Shown Otherwise

Solution – How to Increase Transparency? How Will You Ensure That It Reaches the Ration Card Holder? How Will You Ensure That It Has Been Consumed by The Person for Whom the Ration Has Been Sanctioned?

## Railway Stations Not Age-Friendly

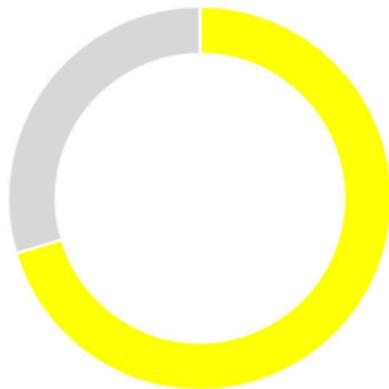
Trains are the most used public transport in Mumbai and people of all ages use this as a medium to commute. To reach platforms, people have to navigate through staircases and long pathways which can prove to be difficult for elderly people. Moreover, escalators also haven't been installed in places they were promised.

### Analysis:

Inaccessible railway platforms with no escalators pose challenges for elderly commuters.

### Implication:

Age-friendly infrastructure promotes inclusivity and safer commutes.



Yes: **70%**

No: **30%**

### Experts Notes:

Introduce new measures to make them friendly.

## Increase in Crime Rate in Slums and Densely Populated Areas

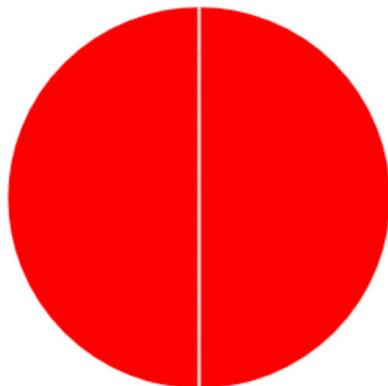
Crime rate in the city is alarmingly high. Many offenders escape the rigors of the law and create an unsafe environment in the local areas.

**Analysis:**

High crime rates in densely populated areas create unsafe environments.

**Implication:**

Enhanced security measures and community involvement are essential for crime prevention.



Yes: **110%**

No: **0%**

**Experts Notes:**

Implement At Broader Level

## Improper Sewage & Drainage Systems – Water Logging

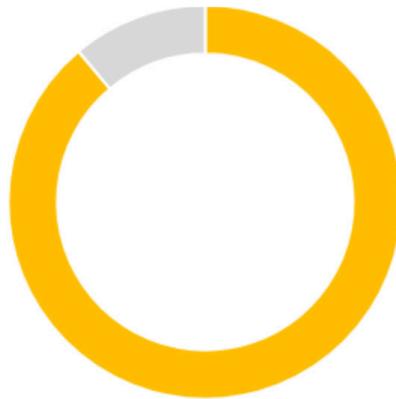
Poorly designed or installed gutter and drainage systems lead to contamination of land with bacteria infected water, which in turn has harmful effects like the spreading of diseases and infections, bad odor and low sanitation.

### Analysis:

Poor drainage systems lead to water-logging, health risks, and environmental pollution.

### Implication:

Upgrading sewage and drainage systems is essential for urban sanitation.



Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

### Experts Notes:

Separate Drainage System

## Bus Stops Need Revamping for Shade and Seating

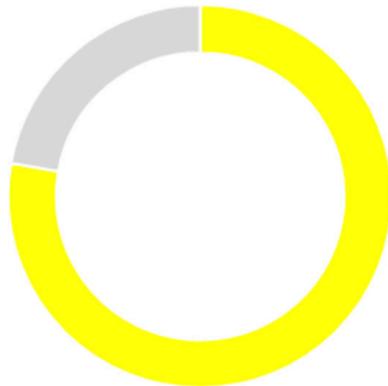
Bus stops in the city are in a dilapidated conditions in parts of the city. Often times bus stops are inadequate in serving the purpose of a safe waiting point for the mode of transport. As a matter of urgency bus stops need to be revamped to cater to the needs of a regular traveller.

### Analysis:

Dilapidated bus stops fail to provide safe waiting areas for commuters.

### Implication:

Revamped bus stops enhance the commuting experience and public transportation's efficiency.



Yes: **78%**

No: **22%**

### Experts Notes:

Why just bus stops? - Revamp all the street furniture – taxi stands, phone booths, bus stands, etc.

## **DEMANDS FOR CITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT:**

## **Construction of Parks and Open Green Patches**

Note: Creating more parks and green spaces in Mumbai is vital for providing citizens with areas to relax, exercise, and connect with nature. These green patches can serve as lungs for the city, improving air quality and mental well-being.

### **Experts Notes:**

Where To Construct? Only Where They've Been Earmarked On The Development Plan.

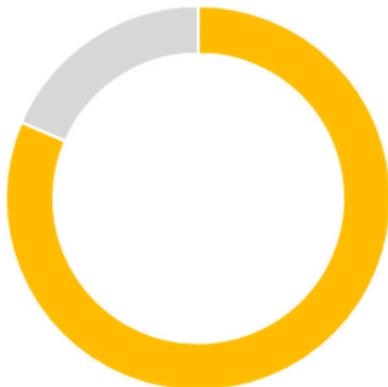


Yes: **74%**

No: **26%**

## **Clearing Footpaths for Walking Purposes-**

Note: Clear and safe footpaths encourage walking, reduce traffic congestion, and promote healthier lifestyles among residents.



Yes: **81%**

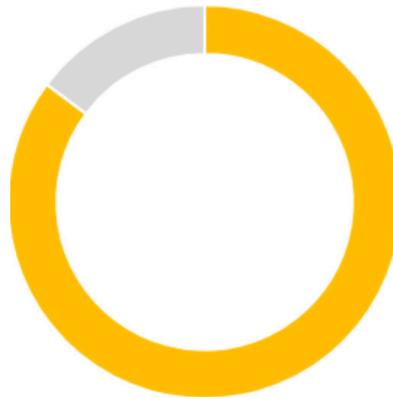
No: **19%**

## Holding Mayoral Elections in Maharashtra

Note: Directly electing mayors enhances local governance, transparency, and accountability in urban development.

### Experts Notes:

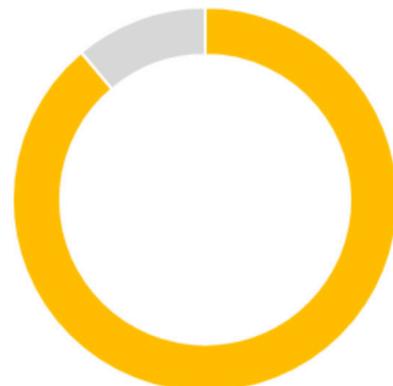
They Should Be in Larger Cities



Yes: **85%**

No: **15%**

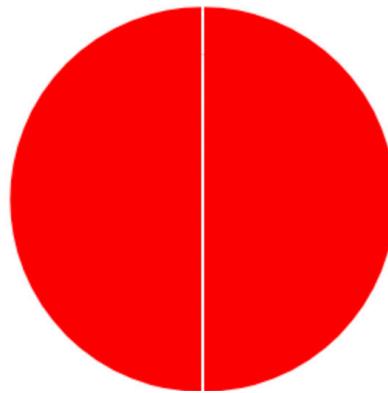
## Sports and recreations needs to be given equal importance as education.



Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

## Electricity Supply Solution Required in Places Where the Supply is Not Constant

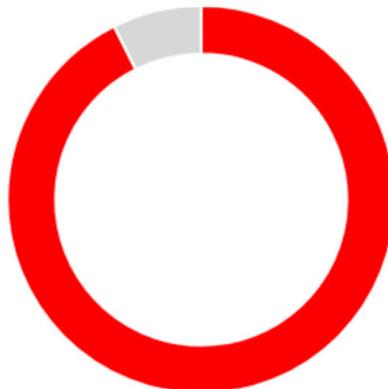


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## More Budget Allocation for Youth-

Note: Increasing budget allocations for youth-related programs and initiatives supports their education, employment, and overall development.



Yes: **93%**

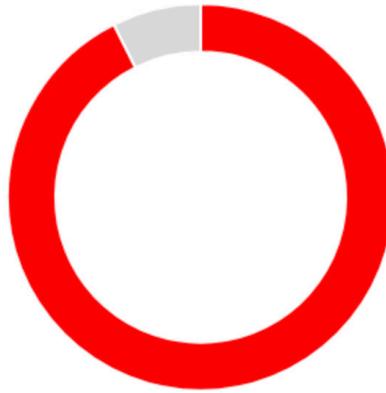
No: **7%**

## Planting More Trees

Note: Increasing Mumbai's green cover through tree planting initiatives is a proactive step towards combatting pollution and enhancing the city's beauty. Trees provide shade, absorb carbon dioxide, and promote biodiversity.

### Experts Notes:

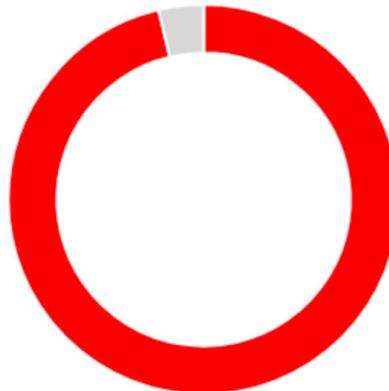
See that the Planted Trees Live and Grow.



Yes: **93%**

No: **7%**

## Give more importance to water quality index



Yes: **96%**

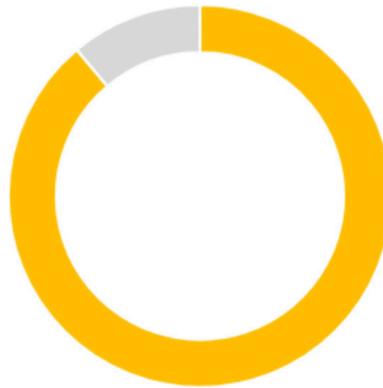
No: **4%**

## **Simplified Voting Process for MLC Elections**

Note: Simplifying the voting process for MLC elections encourages youth participation in the political process, strengthening democratic engagement.

### **Experts Notes:**

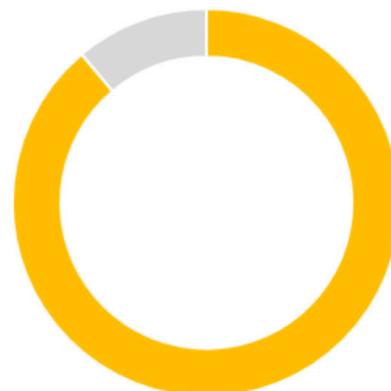
Make A Process to Enroll Once Permanently (Only for Graduates Constituency).



Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

## **Regulation of Encroachments**

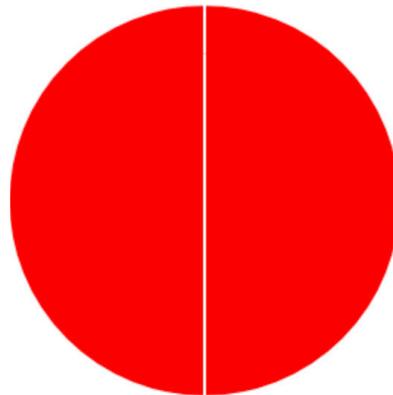


Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

## Increase Police Security in High-Crime Areas

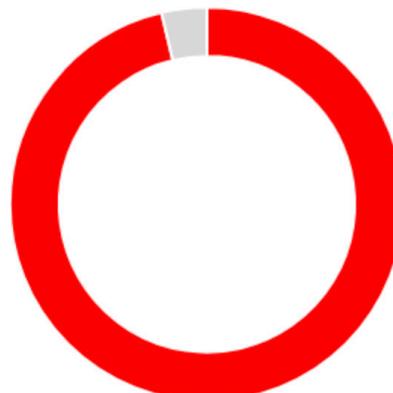
Note: Enhancing police presence in high-crime areas fosters a sense of safety, deters criminal activity, and protects vulnerable communities.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## There is a need for a new menstrual policy in Mumbai

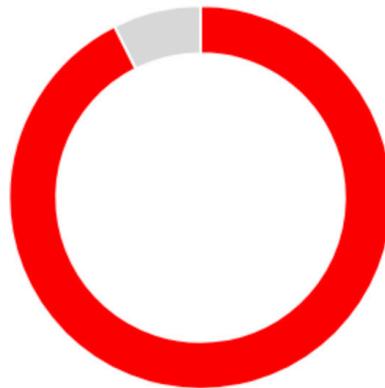


Yes: **96%**

No: **4%**

## More Affordable Hostels for Students

Note: Establishing student-friendly hostels encourages educational pursuits by providing safe and affordable living options, fostering a conducive learning environment.



Yes: **93%**

No: **7%**

## New Learning-Based Education Policy

Note: An education policy focused on holistic learning rather than rote memorization can nurture critical thinking and creativity among students, preparing them for the challenges of the modern world.



Yes: **81%**

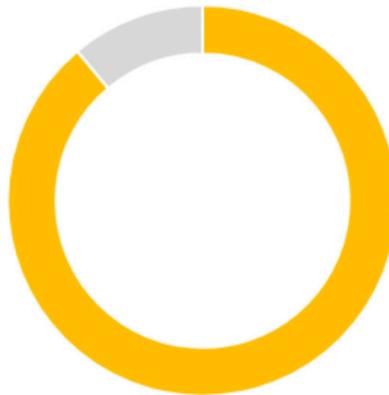
No: **19%**

## Shelters for the Homeless

Note: Creating shelters for the homeless is a compassionate response to the housing crisis. It not only provides basic amenities but also helps individuals reintegrate into society.

**Experts Notes:**

Underground Shelters for Homeless

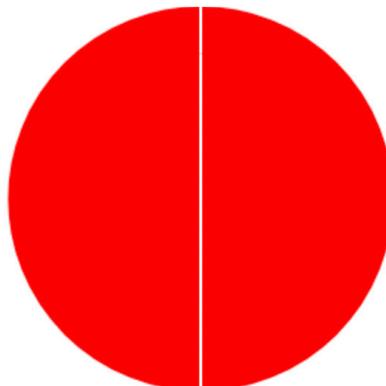


Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

## Reservation of Seats in the Parliament for the Youth

Note: Youth representation in Parliament ensures that the younger generation's concerns and aspirations are heard and acted upon, promoting inclusive governance.

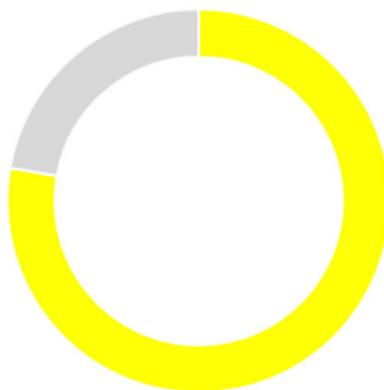


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## Music and Art as School Curriculum Subjects

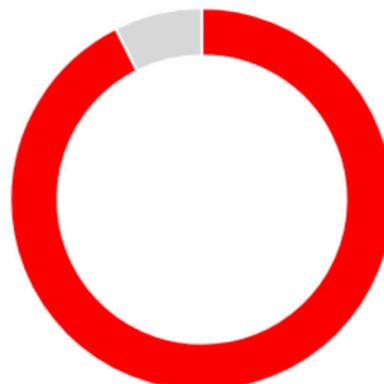
Note: Including music and art in school curriculum enhances students' creativity, emotional expression, and cognitive development, fostering well-rounded individuals.



Yes: **78%**

No: **22%**

## Rickshaws and taxis need to be adhere to the fare shown in the meter

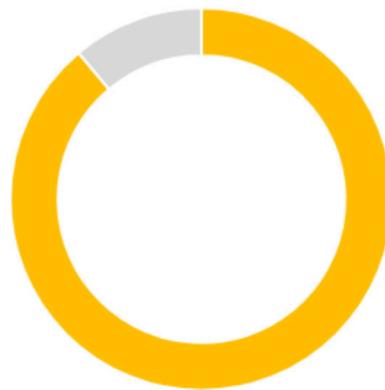


Yes: **93%**

No: **7%**

## **Establishment of Comprehensive Waste Management Infrastructure-**

Note: Developing a robust waste management system is crucial for maintaining clean streets, preventing pollution, and promoting recycling and responsible waste disposal.

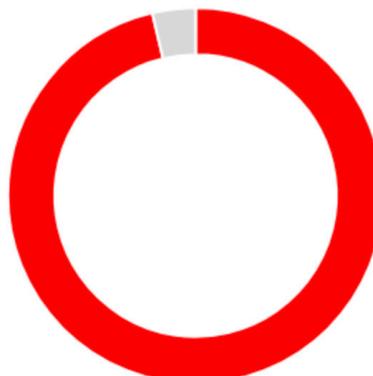


Yes: **89%**

No: **11%**

## **Portable Washrooms in Slum Areas**

Note: Providing portable washrooms in slum areas addresses sanitation inequalities, preserving dignity and health for all residents. + Mobile Toilets.

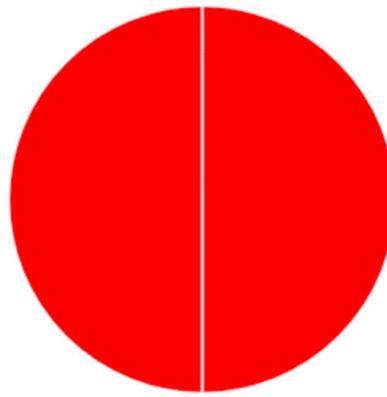


Yes: **96%**

No: **4%**

## Better Traffic Management

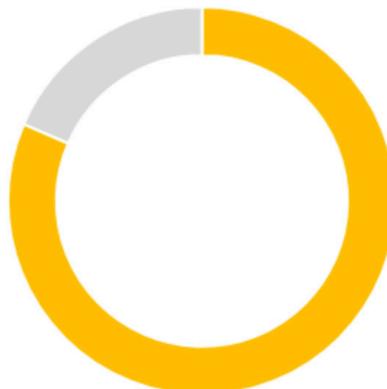
Note: Implementing efficient traffic management strategies can significantly alleviate traffic congestion and reduce commute times. Smart traffic solutions and public awareness campaigns are key.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## Fair pricing of fruits and vegetables is needed

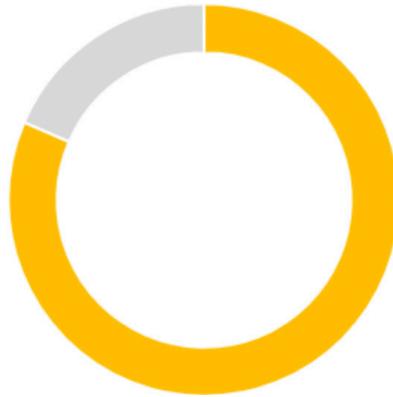


Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

## **LGBTQIA+ Education and Awareness**

Note: Promoting LGBTQIA+ education and awareness fosters inclusivity, reduces discrimination, and creates a more accepting society.

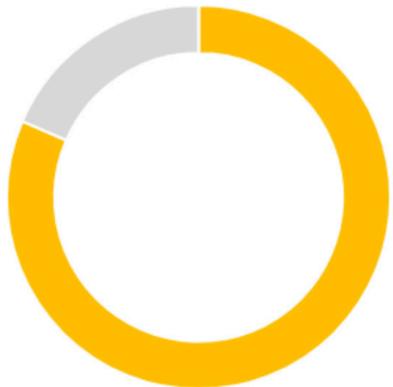


Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

## **Mandatory Electoral Education in the School Syllabus**

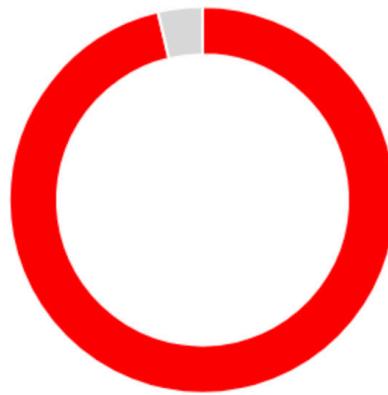
Note: Integrating electoral education into the curriculum empowers future voters with knowledge about the democratic process, promoting informed civic participation.



Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

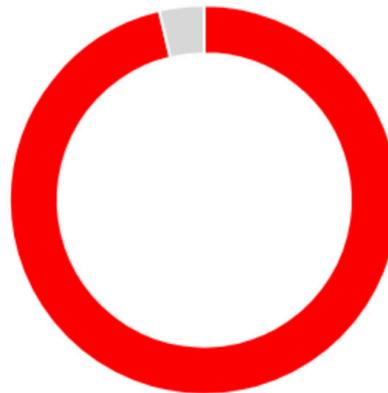
**Students who haven't completed their education need to be given guidance by govt to help increase literacy**



Yes: **81%**

No: **19%**

**Participation of youth in betterment of the city's governance at public level**

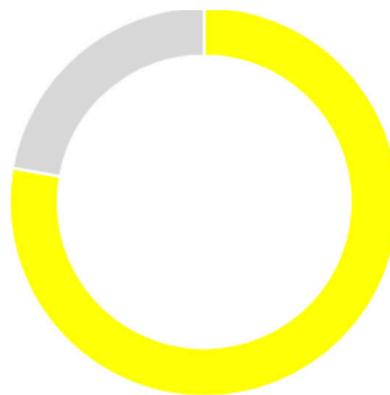


Yes: **96%**

No: **4%**

## **Women's Reservation Bill: 33 Percent Seats in Parliament**

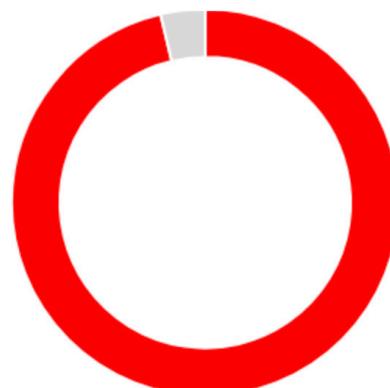
Note: Implementing the Women's Reservation Bill ensures women's equal representation in Parliament, advancing gender equality and women's rights.



Yes: **78%**

No: **22%**

## **Student election at university level to motivate election culture among students**



Yes: **96%**

No: **4%**

# DETAILED NOTE FOR THE CITY

The city committee's contributions to the youth manifesto on environmental issues demonstrate a commendable commitment to addressing pressing urban challenges in Mumbai. Their engagement and innovative thinking reflect the importance of youth involvement in advocating for a more sustainable and healthier city environment. However, an overview analysis of the city committee's proposals reveals several noteworthy aspects:

## ***SUMMARY FOR CITY COMMITTEE***

The city committee focuses on critical urban issues within Mumbai, including transportation, housing, public spaces, and infrastructure. Their proposals aim to create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly urban environment. However, it is essential to ensure that these proposals align with broader environmental goals and consider their impact on climate change, air quality, and biodiversity conservation.

## ***IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN CITY COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS***

1. Poor vehicle management and parking systems
2. Poor quality of infrastructure of bridges and roads
3. Effects of mumbai metro on the city
4. Rapid growth of construction eating into open spaces
5. Corruption and inequality in the rational system
6. Increase in crime rate in slums and densely populated areas
7. Railway stations not age friendly

## ***IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS IN CITY COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS***

1. Construction of parks and open green patches
2. Holding mayoral elections in Maharashtra
3. Sports and recreation needs to be given equally important as education
4. More budget allocation for youth
5. Give more important to water quality index
6. Participation of youth in betterment of the city's governance
7. More affordable hostels for students
8. Establishment of comprehensive waste management infrastructure
9. Rickshaws and taxis need to adhere to the meter fair
10. More employment opportunities from educational institutions

In conclusion, the city committee's proposals represent a significant effort in addressing urban challenges in Mumbai. To achieve meaningful impact, it is crucial to align these proposals with broader environmental goals, engage stakeholders effectively, and develop detailed implementation plans. By addressing identified gaps and focusing on key urban issues and demands, the committee's proposals can contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly city environment.

# PUBLIC HEALTH



## **PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES:**

## Insufficient Budget for Healthcare

**Analysis:**

Insufficient budget allocation for health-care leads to a scarcity of resources, impacting the quality and availability of medical services. It limits the capacity to invest in modern equipment, hire skilled professionals, and expand healthcare infrastructure.

**Implication:**

Residents face longer wait times, reduced access to specialized care, and increased out-of-pocket expenses. It hampers the ability to respond effectively to health emergencies and limits preventive measures.



Yes: **85%**

No: **15%**

## Violence against doctors

**Analysis:**

Violence against healthcare professionals jeopardizes patient care and physician well-being.

**Implication:**

Ensuring the safety of healthcare providers is essential to maintain a functioning healthcare system and prevent disruptions in medical services.



Yes: **82%**

No: **18%**

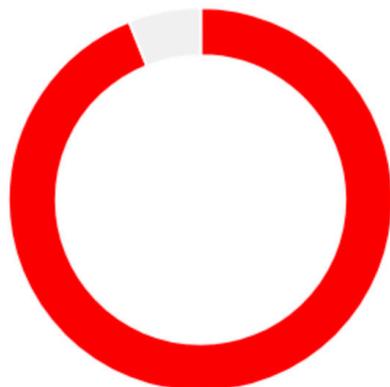
## Pseudoscience and misinformation

**Analysis:**

Pseudoscientific health information can lead individuals to make ill-informed choices about their well-being.

**Implication:**

This can result in ineffective or potentially harmful health practices, negatively affecting public health outcomes.



Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

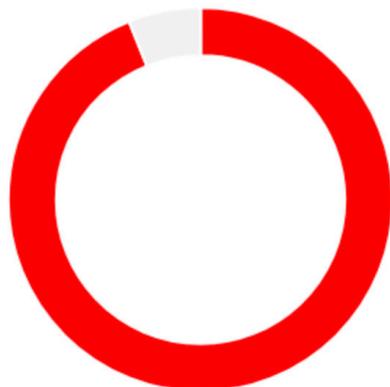
## Lack of awareness of government health policies

**Analysis:**

Inadequate awareness of government health policies results in missed opportunities for citizens to benefit from available healthcare services and resources.

**Implication:**

People may not fully utilize preventive programs and support, leading to preventable health issues and increased healthcare costs.



Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

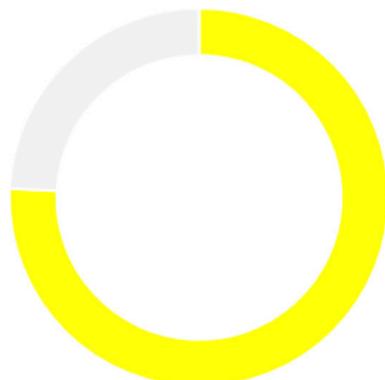
## Increase in adulteration of foods

**Analysis:**

Adulterated foods pose serious health risks, including foodborne illnesses and long-term health issues.

**Implication:**

High rates of food adulteration can lead to a higher burden on the healthcare system due to increased cases of food poisoning and related illnesses.



Yes: **76%**

No: **24%**

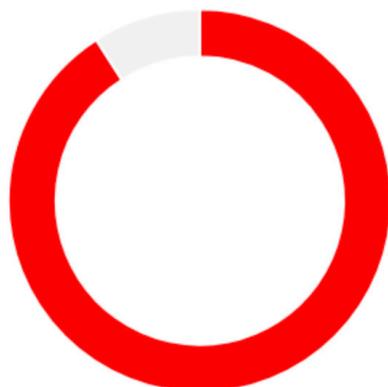
## Lack of safety on construction sites

**Analysis:**

Inadequate safety measures at construction sites pose direct health risks to workers and indirectly affect public health by contributing to accidents and injuries.

**Implication:**

Increased workplace accidents lead to higher healthcare costs, loss of income for affected workers, and potential long-term health issues. It also strains the healthcare system with additional patient admissions.



Yes: **91%**

No: **9%**

## Procedural lapses and delays in reports in government hospitals.

**Analysis:**

Procedural inefficiencies and reporting delays in government hospitals can result in prolonged diagnosis and treatment times.

**Implication:**

Patients face frustration and inconvenience, while delayed treatment can worsen health conditions and reduce the overall effectiveness of healthcare services.



Yes: **82%**

No: **18%**

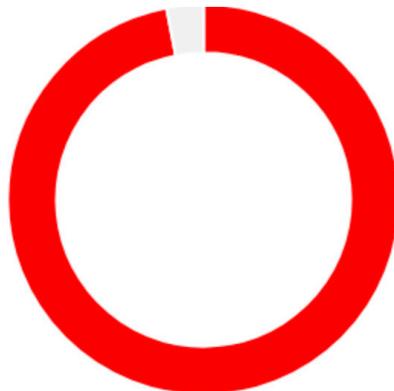
## Lack of Sex Education for both genders

**Analysis:**

The absence of comprehensive sex education hinders individuals from making informed decisions about their sexual health.

**Implication:**

This can lead to unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and reduced overall sexual health.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

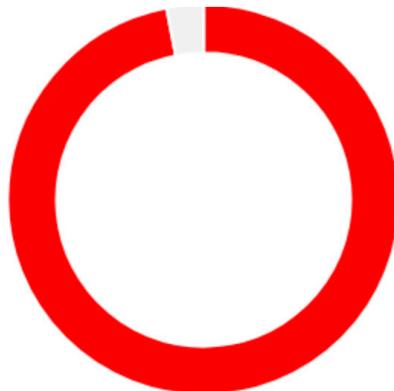
## Lack of affordable ambulance services

**Analysis:**

High ambulance costs deter timely access to emergency care, especially for low-income individuals who may forgo or delay transportation to healthcare facilities.

**Implication:**

Delays in reaching hospitals can worsen health outcomes and increase the risk of fatalities during emergencies.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

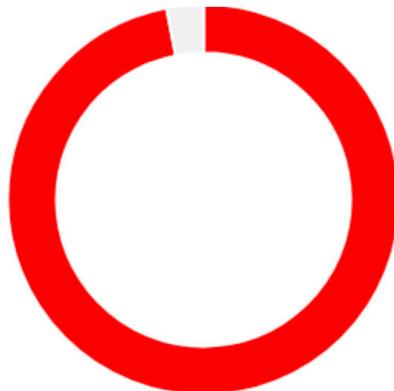
## Expensive and unaffordable healthcare – the lost middle class

**Analysis:**

The rising cost of healthcare disproportionately affects the middle class, leading to financial strain, delayed care-seeking, and potential bankruptcy.

**Implication:**

A shrinking middle class due to health-care expenses negatively impacts the city’s economic and social fabric, limiting access to quality healthcare services.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

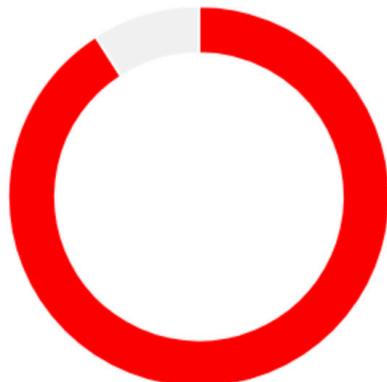
## Menstrual Hygiene – Expensive / unaffordable menstrual products

**Analysis:**

High costs of menstrual products can lead to unhygienic practices and health risks for women.

**Implication:**

Poor menstrual hygiene can result in infections and other health complications, particularly for women in lower-income groups.



Yes: **91%**

No: **9%**

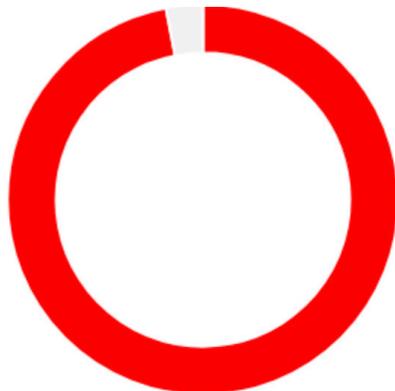
## Lack of medical facilities in slums – Poor infrastructure in government hospitals

**Analysis:**

Inadequate medical facilities in slum areas and poorly maintained government hospitals result in limited access to healthcare services for marginalized populations.

**Implication:**

Residents in these areas often delay seeking medical care, leading to worsened health conditions. The strain on government hospitals also affects the quality of care for all patients.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

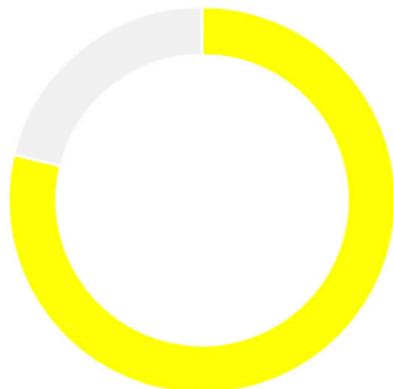
## Increase in suicide rates

**Analysis:**

Rising suicide rates indicate underlying mental health challenges and social factors.

**Implication:**

Addressing mental health issues is essential to prevent suicides and reduce the burden on mental health-care services.



Yes: **79%**

No: **21%**

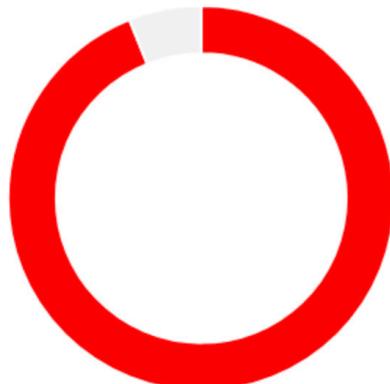
## Transparency in medical consultation – cost breakdown and overcrowding in public hospitals

**Analysis:**

Lack of transparency in medical costs and overcrowding in public hospitals erodes patient trust and hampers efficient healthcare delivery.

**Implication:**

Patients may avoid seeking care due to uncertainty about costs and experience longer wait times, affecting their health outcomes.



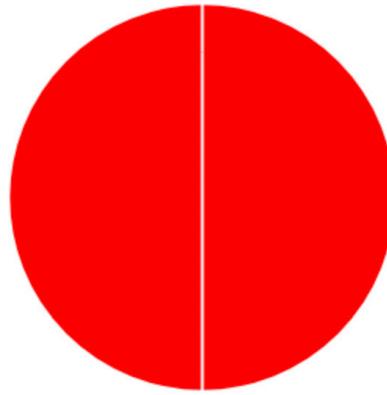
Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEMANDS:**

**Universal and accessible healthcare - Medical camps and regulating medical insurance - We want the government to organize efficient medical camps where free health check-ups are provided.**

Note: Efficient medical camps providing free health check-ups can significantly improve healthcare access, especially for underserved communities. Regulating medical insurance ensures fair practices and affordability.

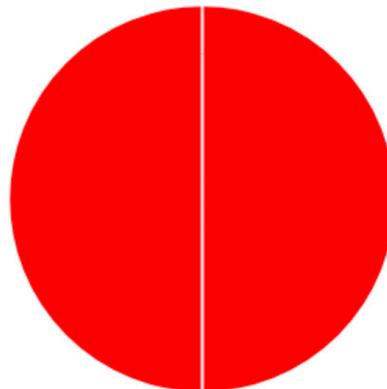


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

**We want the cost of medicines to be reduced for underprivileged and marginalized communities**

Note: Affordable medicines are critical for equitable healthcare access, particularly for vulnerable populations.

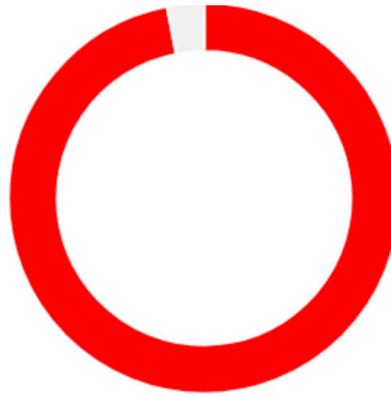


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

**We want increase in availability of ambulance services**

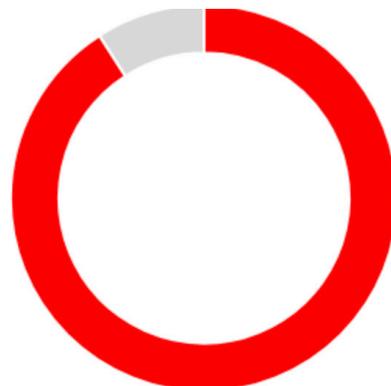
Note: Improved ambulance services are critical for timely emergency response and saving lives.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We want to address the problem of our aging population**

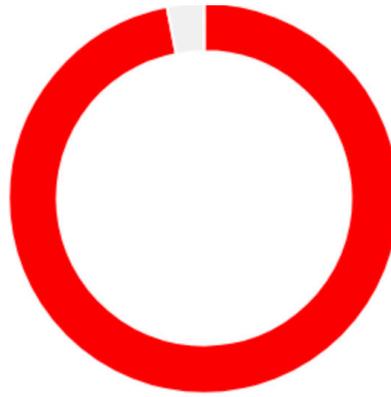


Yes: **91%**

No: **9%**

**Government grants for medical innovation- We want the government to provide grants for innovations related to the health sector.**

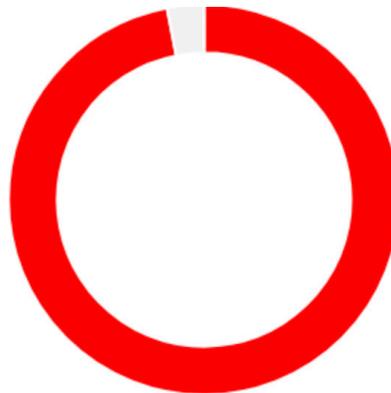
Note: Government grants for health-related innovations encourage research and development, leading to advancements in health-care technology and practices.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We demand increase in the number of hospital staff**

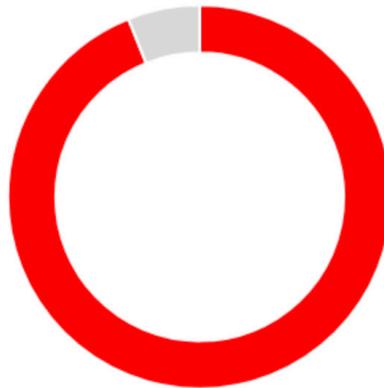


Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

## **Implementation of mental health awareness programs**

Note: Mental health awareness programs are crucial to reduce stigma, promote early intervention, and improve overall mental well-being.

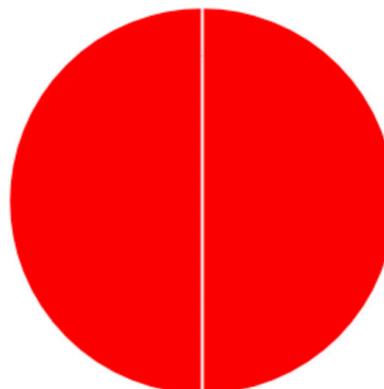


Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

## **Availability of sanitary pads in rural areas and reduce the cost of menstrual products**

Note: Ensuring access to affordable menstrual hygiene products enhances the health and dignity of women and girls in rural areas.

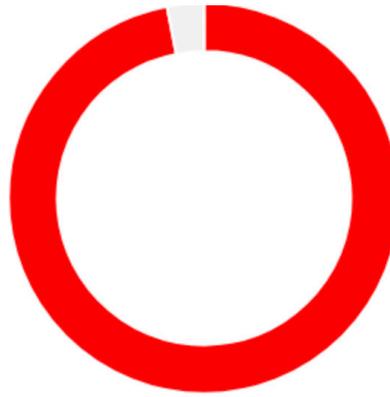


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

**We demand workshops of health insurance and policies as part of our education systems**

Note: Integrating health insurance and policy education in schools can enhance health literacy and awareness among students.



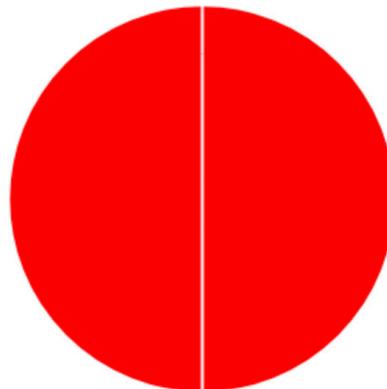
Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We demand the regular cleaning of public toilets**

Note: Clean public toilets are essential for sanitation and preventing the spread of diseases.

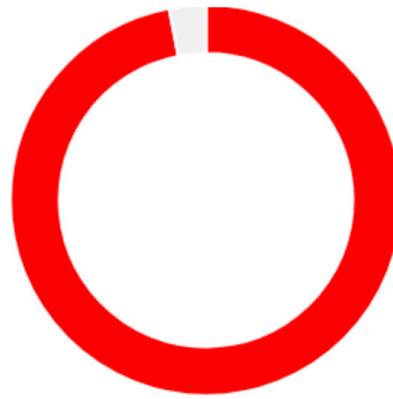
Health awareness programs can empower individuals to make healthier choices, reducing the burden of lifestyle-related diseases.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

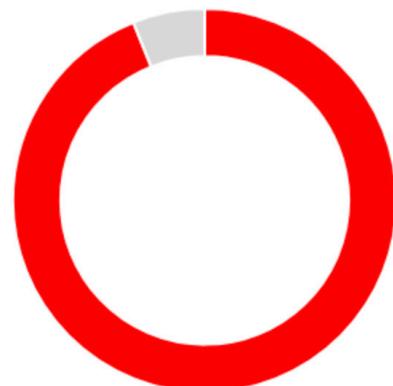
**Affordable health insurance premium**



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

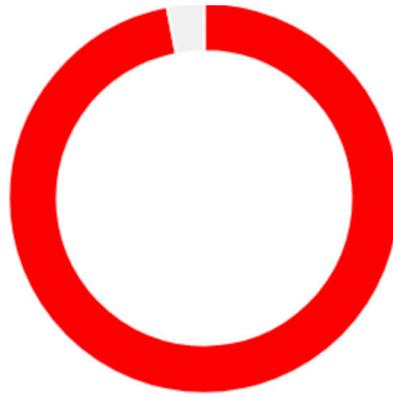
**We want the government to organize more river and lake clean-ups – Mithi River**



Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

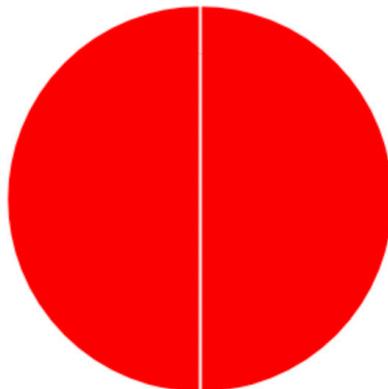
**We want more government policies specifically focusing on the middle class**



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We want a proper waste disposal system**

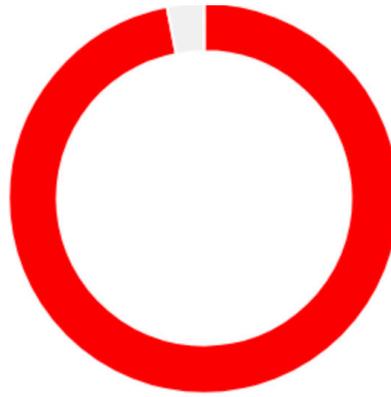


Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

**Nutritious meals in the mid-day meal programme  
We want the government to improve the quality  
of mid-day meals.**

Note: Enhancing the quality of mid-day meals promotes child health and nutrition, positively impacting learning outcomes.

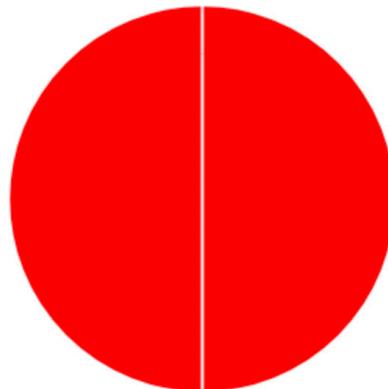


Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We demand appropriate counselling for vicims of sexual  
violence**

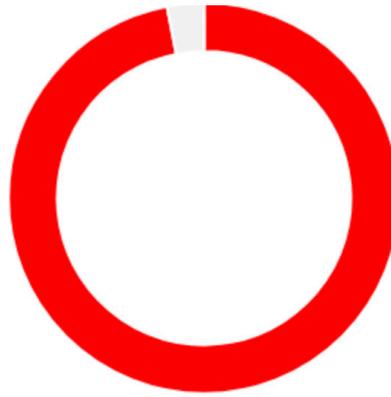
Note: Counselling and support services are crucial for the mental and emotional well-being of vicims of sexual violence.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

**We demand an improvement in the AQI of Mumbai**



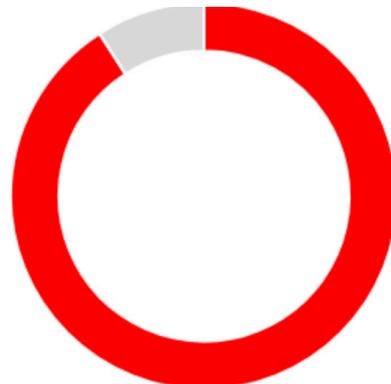
Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We demand adequate accommodation for medical students**

**Medical students live in dilapidated conditions and face the constant problem of accommodation.**

Note: Providing suitable accommodation for medical students is essential to support their education and well-being.

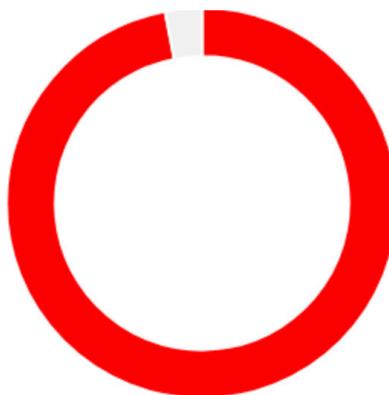


Yes: **91%**

No: **9%**

### **We demand clean hospitals**

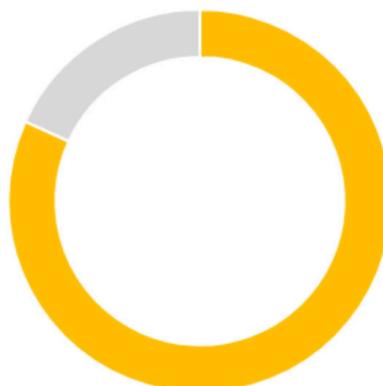
Note: Cleanliness in hospitals is vital to prevent healthcare-associated infections and ensure a safe health-care environment.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

### **We want to create more online appointment systems – for transparent and better communication with administrative offices**

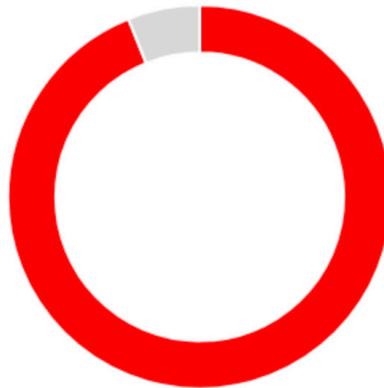


Yes: **82%**

No: **18%**

**We demand regular health check-ups for people of all age groups and communities**

Note: Regular health check-ups promote preventive care and early detection of health issues, improving overall community well-being.

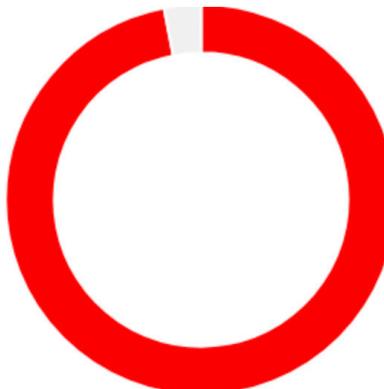


Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

**Counseling should be provided through seminars for reproductive health**

Note: Reproductive health counselling can empower individuals to make informed decisions about family planning and sexual health.



Yes: **97%**

No: **3%**

**We demand that in Thakur Village there is a control of monkey breeding**



Yes: **73%**

No: **27%**

# DETAILED NOTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

The health committee's contributions to the youth manifesto on environmental issues reveal a commendable commitment to addressing critical health challenges in Mumbai. Their focus on healthcare access, disease prevention, mental health, and well-being underscores the importance of youth engagement in advocating for a healthier urban environment. However, an analysis of the health committee's proposals reveals several noteworthy aspects:

## ***SUMMARY FOR HEALTH COMMITTEE***

The health committee focuses on critical health issues within Mumbai, including health-care access, disease prevention, mental health, and well-being. Their proposals aim to create a healthier urban environment. However, a more comprehensive approach to healthcare infrastructure, disease prevention, and environmental health considerations is needed.

## ***IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN HEALTH COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS***

1. Insufficient budget for Healthcare
2. Violence against doctors
3. Lack of awareness in government health policies
4. Procedural lapses and delays in reports in government hospitals
5. Lack of affordable ambulances services
6. Lack of medical facilities in slums
7. Expensive and unaffordable healthcare- the middle class
8. Transparency in medical consultation

## **IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS IN HEALTH COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS**

1. Universal and accessible healthcare - medical camps and regulating medical institutions.
2. We want to reduce the cost of medicines for underprivileged and marginalised communities
3. We want to address the problem of our aging population
4. Governments grants for medical innovations
5. We want increase in hospitals staff
6. Reduced cost of menstrual products
7. We demand workshops on awareness of health insurance and policies to be part of education systems

In conclusion, the health committee's proposals represent a significant effort in addressing health challenges in Mumbai. To achieve meaningful impact, it is crucial to develop detailed implementation plans, integrate environmental health considerations, and address the unique health needs of vulnerable populations. By addressing identified gaps and focusing on key health issues and demands, the committee's proposals can contribute to a healthier and more resilient urban environment.

# ENVIRONMENT



## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:**

## Combating Carbon Footprint

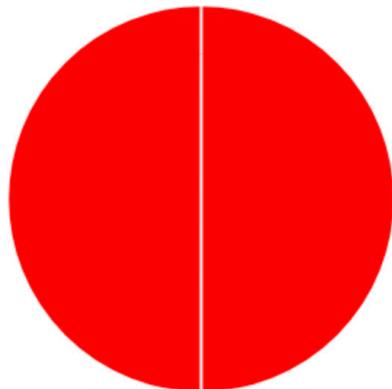
To mitigate the irreversible and irreparable effect of climate change we need to reach zero neutrality by 2040 in Mumbai.

### Analysis:

Achieving carbon neutrality by 2040 is an ambitious yet necessary goal to mitigate climate change impacts in Mumbai.

### Implication:

Implementing sustainable energy sources, reducing emissions, and promoting carbon offset initiatives are essential.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## Lack of Awareness

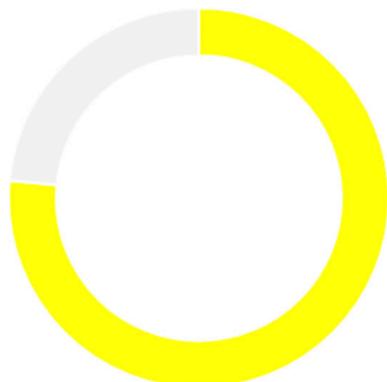
Addressing lack of awareness is essential for fostering informed decision and positive change within society we should immediately promote and education, champion workshop community and motives.

### Analysis:

Raising awareness is crucial for responsible waste handling.

### Implication:

Promoting education, workshops, and community engagement can address this issue.



Yes: **76%**

No: **24%**

## Energy Generation from Organic Waste

Generation of energy from organic waste.  
To produce methane gas from organic waste.  
We demand to come up with anaerobic digestion process.

### Analysis:

Generating energy from organic waste is environmentally beneficial.

### Implication:

Developing anaerobic digestion processes for methane production is a sustainable solution.

### Experts Notes:

Promoting setting up bio gas plants in every public institute.



Yes: **53%**

No: **47%**

## Soil degradation

Due to our concern regarding soil degradation, we demand crop rotation and permaculture (sustainable farming).

### Analysis:

Soil degradation affects agriculture.

### Implication:

Promoting sustainable farming and runoff control is essential.

### Experts Notes:

Roof top food farms help connect people with growing foods Soil nourishment in open spaces.



Yes: **88%**

No: **12%**

## Global Cooperation

We should work towards international collaboration to address climate change. we should work towards strengthening our international agreements and work towards the promotion of sustainable development goals.

### Analysis:

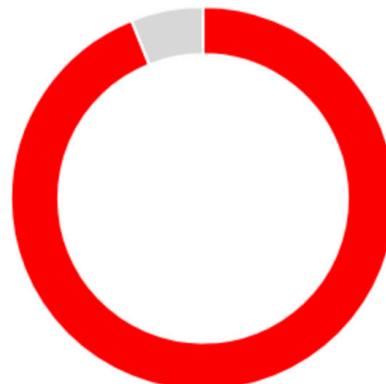
International collaboration is essential for effective climate action.

### Implication:

Strengthening international agreements and aligning with sustainable development goals is crucial.

### Experts Notes:

Role of community participation to sensitise them on these issues.



Yes: **94%**

No: **6%**

## Biodiversity loss

We should include habitat protection, sustainable use of land and promote conservation efforts to safeguard our planet's diverse life forms

### Analysis:

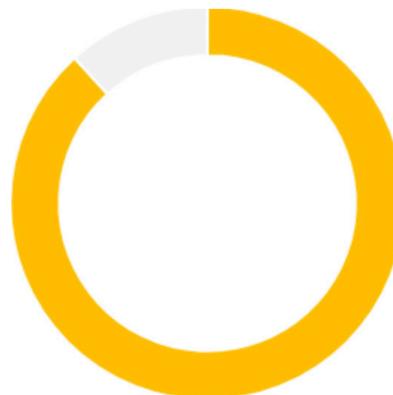
Protecting habitats and conserving biodiversity is crucial for maintaining ecosystem balance.

### Implication:

Enforcing habitat protection and sustainable land use policies will safeguard diverse life forms.

### Experts Notes:

Ecosystem should be protected because of the services it provides.



Yes: **88%**

No: **12%**

## Conscious Energy Consumption

We should incentivize sustainable practices, improve energy efficiency in buildings and institutions. practices, energy audits, efficient appliances.

### Analysis:

Promoting sustainable practices and energy efficiency is vital.

### Implication:

Incentivizing sustainable practices and conducting energy audits will reduce energy consumption.



Yes: **29%**

No: **71%**

**Loss of green spaces and destruction of green covers:**

Construction should be completely banned by the government by promoting vertical foresting, development of a green cover action plan for the city and creation of public awareness regarding tree plantation.

**Analysis:**

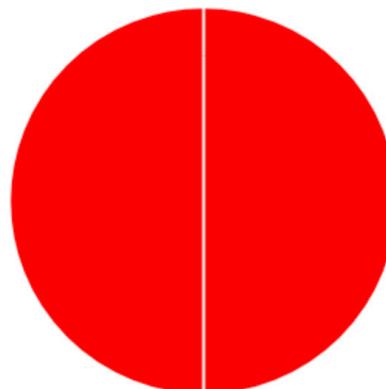
Urban planning issues lead to a loss of green spaces.

**Implication:**

Promoting vertical foresting and public awareness campaigns can combat this problem.

**Experts Notes:**

Impacting air quality and temperature



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## **Illegal dumping of waste**

Due to improper handling of hazardous waste treatment facilities we demand impose stringent regulations on proper dumping of waste to establish efficient waste management System.

**Analysis:**

Proper waste disposal regulations are required.

**Implication:**

Imposing stringent waste dumping regulations will ensure efficient waste management.

**Experts Notes:**

Efficient e-waste collection centre in every ward.



Yes: **65%**

No: **35%**

## River Restoration

We should encourage investment in river restoration projects to improve the natural capacity of rivers to handle excess water flow. This includes the removal of barriers, erosion control, and re-naturalization of riverbanks to reduce flood risks.

### Analysis:

Restoring rivers enhances their capacity to manage excess water.

### Implication:

Investment in river restoration projects can reduce flood risks.

### Experts Notes:

Use of restored river side for recreation / events



Yes: **71%**

No: **29%**

## Dumping grounds in mangroves

For dumping grounds in mangroves and mangroves being buried caused due to hazardous wastage being dumped in the mangroves must be protected by creation of buffer zones around shrimp ponds, restoration of mangrove area hydrology and plantation of emerging islands with mangroves.

### Analysis:

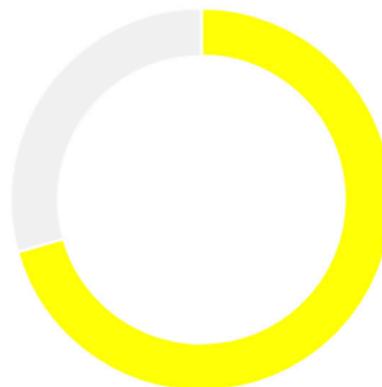
Hazardous waste threatens mangroves.

### Implication:

Creating buffer zones and restoring hydrology will protect these vital ecosystems.

### Experts Notes:

Mudded debris from construction activities.



Yes: **71%**

No: **29%**

## Proper waste treatment facilities

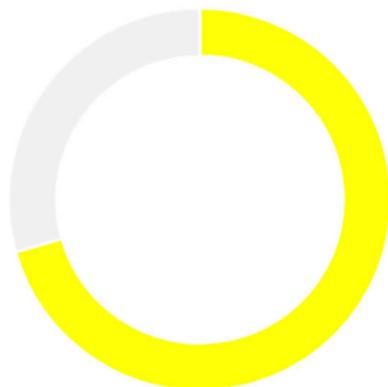
We youth of Mumbai call to action against the lack of proper waste treatment. We should demand responsible planning and investment in comprehensive waste management infrastructure.

### Analysis:

Inadequate waste treatment infrastructure is a pressing concern.

### Implication:

Responsible planning and investments in comprehensive waste management are needed.



Yes: **71%**

No: **29%**

## AQI

Due to our interest in the health of the citizens, we should prevent air pollution and maintain an Air Quality Index (AQI) within 50, as per international guidelines.

### Analysis:

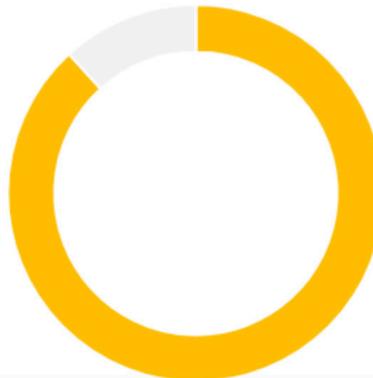
Maintaining a healthy AQI is crucial for public health.

### Implication:

Preventing air pollution and adhering to international AQI standards should be a priority.

### Experts Notes:

Promote planting of trees with shorter heights to trap dust.



Yes: **88%**

No: **12%**

## Investment in Climate R&D

We should have labs set up in government and educational institutions for climate research and development. We should have investments made specifically in the field of climate and environment studies.

### Analysis:

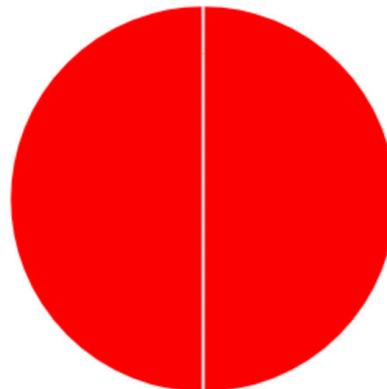
Investing in climate research and development is vital for informed decision-making.

### Implication:

Establishing research labs and allocating funds to climate studies will drive innovative solutions.

### Experts Notes:

There should be some competent body to approve this for implementation and a committee set up by the government for review.



Yes: **100%**

No: **0%**

## Strict Regulatory framework

We want the government to establish and enforce stricter regulations to limit and monitor pollutants being released into water bodies. These regulations should include clear guidelines on permissible pollutant levels and penalties for non-compliance.

### Analysis:

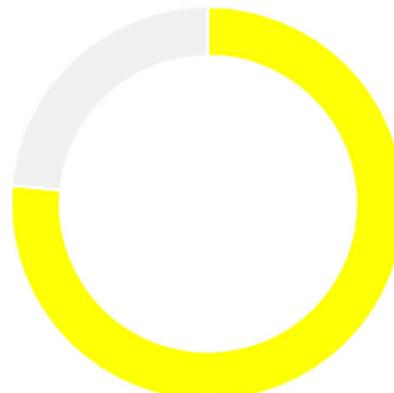
Stricter regulations are necessary to control water pollution.

### Implication:

Enforcing clear guidelines and penalties for pollutants is essential.

### Experts Notes:

100% sewage treatment to be achieved.



Yes: **76%**

No: **24%**

## Improper Sewage & Drainage Systems – Water Logging

Poorly designed or installed gutter and drainage systems lead to contamination of land with bacteria infected water, which in turn has harmful effects like the spreading of diseases and infections, bad odor and low sanitation.

### Analysis:

Poor drainage systems lead to water-logging, health risks, and environmental pollution.

### Implication:

Upgrading sewage and drainage systems is essential for urban sanitation

### Experts Notes:

Separate Drainage System



Yes: **35%**

No: **65%**

## Reuse

We advocate for conscious consumer choices streamlined production processes & responsible resource management. By embracing simplicity and minimizing waste, we aspire to create a world where quality prevails over quantity.

### Analysis:

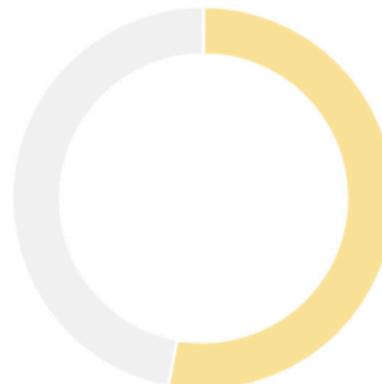
Encouraging responsible consumer choices and resource management is vital.

### Implication:

Minimizing waste through conscious consumption and streamlined production processes can lead to a sustainable future.

### Experts Notes:

A focus should be given on awareness



Yes: **53%**

No: **47%**

## Sustainable Design

We the youth should urge the government to adopt sustainable storm drain design principles that promote infiltration, natural filtration, and rainwater harvesting. This can help reduce the burden on storm drain systems and protect water quality.

### Analysis:

Sustainable storm drain design can protect water quality.

### Implication:

Adopting principles like rainwater harvesting and infiltration can reduce stormwater issues.

### Experts Notes:

Ground water Recharge  
(Playground should be kept free from cement and concrete so that water can seep in)



Yes: **71%**

No: **29%**

## Coastal Erosion

We should promote the mechanic robot AI & ML to identify and pull-out waste along the coastlines of the city. We should protect mangroves and other bio sensitive zone to prevent loss of biodiversity and to promote natural flooding prevention mechanism.

**Analysis:**

Coastal erosion threatens biodiversity and the city’s resilience.

**Implication:**

Utilizing AI and robotics for waste removal and protecting mangroves can mitigate erosion.

**Experts Notes:**

Audit of the shore line every 6 months (map and understand erosion for at least next 10 years)



Yes: **88%**

No: **12%**

## Environmental Impact Assessment

We should demand for environmental impact assessment to be conducted before implementing any chemical treatment solutions. This assessment should evaluate potential impacts on water quality, ecosystems, and public health.

### Analysis:

Assessing impacts before implementing treatments is prudent.

### Implication:

Conducting assessments for chemical treatments will safeguard water quality.

### Experts Notes:

Phayto remediation.



Yes: **65%**

No: **35%**

**ENVIRONMENTAL DEMANDS:**

### **Climate Change Policies & Implementation**

Due to our concern for the environment, we demand that there should be stringent implementation of action against climate change, and adopting climate action policies that match/exceed global standards.

#### **Experts Notes:**

Setup climate change mitigation committees and work with district authorities at collectorate level every quarter

### **Climate-based Research, Development & Technology**

Due to our concern about the climate-related issues, we demand that there should be an allocation of resources directly to research, develop and innovate in the domain of Green Energy, Sustainability and Climate Technology.

### **Increased Open/Green Spaces**

Due to our inclination towards health & wellness of all citizens, we demand more open spaces that can boost citizen health, enhance mental wellness, promote a fitter lifestyle and inculcate a sense of collective growth of the community.

### **Encourage use of Zero-Emission Vehicles- Encourage use of Zero-Emission Vehicles**

Due to our concern about the ever-growing vehicle emissions, we demand that zero-emission vehicle use is promoted collectively with tax incentives schemes for its adoption. We also demand that there should be an adoption of transparency in terms of environmental impact across the entire supply chain of Zero Emission Vehicles Industry and other closely related industries.

### **Sustainability Reporting in Organizations- Sustainability Reporting in Organisations**

With the growing need for businesses to adopt sustainability, ESG reporting should not be limited only to the top organisations but should be mandated in a convenient way for MSMEs as well. This can enable sustainable practices.

### **River Restoration**

We should encourage investment in river restoration projects to improve the natural capacity of rivers to handle excess water flow. This includes the removal of barriers, erosion control, and re-naturalization of riverbanks to reduce flood risks.

### **Strict Regulatory framework**

We want the government to establish and enforce stricter regulations to limit and monitor pollutants being released into water bodies. These regulations should include clear guidelines on permissible pollutant levels and penalties for non-compliance.

### **Sustainable Design**

We the youth should urge the government to adopt sustainable storm drain design principles that promote infiltration, natural filtration, and rainwater harvesting. This can help reduce the burden on storm drain systems and protect water quality.

#### **Experts Notes:**

Related to ground water recharge

### **Environmental Impact Assessment**

We should demand for environmental impact assessment to be conducted before implementing any chemical treatment solutions. This assessment should evaluate potential impacts on water quality, ecosystems, and public health.

### **Restoration of Habitats**

We should call for the protection and restoration of critical fish habitats, including wetlands, mangroves, and spawning grounds. Preserving these ecosystems helps provide food, shelter, and breeding grounds for fish populations, enhancing their resilience against pollution.

### **Monitoring Network**

We should ask the government for establishment of a comprehensive groundwater monitoring network that covers areas vulnerable to effluent dumping. Regular monitoring of groundwater quality will help identify sources of contamination and facilitate prompt action to protect the affected areas.

### **Promote Alternative Disposal Methods**

We should encourage the government to promote alternative methods of effluent disposal that minimize the risk of groundwater contamination. This may include promoting recycling and reuse of wastewater or incentivizing the use of zero-liquid discharge technologies.

### **Rehabilitation and Upgrades**

We should invest in the rehabilitation and upgrades of the nalas (river sublets) wherever necessary. This may include repairs to damaged infrastructure, installation of screens or barriers to prevent solid waste entry, and the implementation of improved water management techniques.

### **Enforcement of Anti-Littering Laws**

We should ask the government to strengthen the enforcement of anti-littering laws to discourage individuals from littering. Increase penalties and fines for littering offenses, and ensure that enforcement agencies are actively monitoring and taking action against littering incidents.

#### **Experts Notes:**

Use of treated sewage water to wash the roads

### **Investment in Water Infrastructure**

We should ask the government for increased investment in water treatment and infrastructure improvements. Adequate funding should be allocated to develop and maintain water treatment plants, sewage systems, and waste management facilities to prevent untreated waste from entering water bodies.

### **Educate the Public Through Campaigns and Schemes**

We want the government to launch comprehensive public awareness campaigns and educational programs that highlight the importance of water conservation and the impact of water pollution. By fostering a sense of responsibility among individuals, we can encourage sustainable behaviours and minimize pollution at the source.

### **Incentives for Cleaner Energy Sources**

We should ask government to provide incentives and subsidies to encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, this can help reduce reliance on fossil fuels and decrease air pollution caused by their combustion.

### **Health Policies**

We should demand the implementation and enforcement of comprehensive health policies that address the harmful effects of air pollution. These policies should aim to reduce exposure to pollutants and prioritize the protection of vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing respiratory or cardiovascular conditions.

#### **Experts Notes:**

Dedicated clinics for respiratory track illness in every ward

### **Green Space Development**

We should demand the creation and preservation of green spaces within urban areas to act as dust traps and improve air quality. Planting trees, creating parks, and establishing green buffers can help in reducing dust pollution.

### **Timely Alerts and Information**

We should demand that the government establish effective systems to provide timely alerts and information on air quality conditions. This can include issuing public notifications, sending SMS alerts, and utilizing mobile applications to inform individuals when the AQI reaches unhealthy levels.

### **Community Participation and Consultation**

We should demand the government to include local communities in decision-making processes related to industrial pollution. This can involve meaningful consultations, information sharing, and involving community representatives on relevant advisory boards to ensure that the interests and concerns of affected communities are heard and addressed.

### **Children should have the right to their playground and public welfare.**

We must safeguard the interests of the children and provide them with more freedom and access to open spaces. We should advocate for more open spaces and playgrounds so that children's rights are not infringed after they are born. It is important to foster a community of children who have experienced playing and growing up around green and open spaces.

# DETAILED NOTE FOR ENVIRONMENT

The youth manifesto on environmental issues drafted by students in Mumbai showcases a commendable commitment to addressing pressing environmental challenges. It reflects the enthusiasm, engagement, and innovative thinking of the youth in advocating for a more sustainable and healthier urban environment. However, an analysis reveals several noteworthy aspects:

## ***SUMMARY FOR ENVIRONMENT***

The youth manifesto addresses a wide range of environmental issues through its committees. These issues encompass climate change, water management, land use, waste management, and air quality. Each committee highlights specific concerns and demands, aiming to create a more sustainable and environmentally friendly urban environment in Mumbai.

## ***IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN ENVIRONMENT***

1. Sustainable design
2. Improper sewage and drainage system
3. Strict regulatory framework
4. Air Quality Index
5. Proper waste tremendous facilities
6. River restoration
7. Biodiversity loss
8. Coastal erosion
9. Loss of green spaces and destruction of green covers

## ***IDENTIFIED MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS IN ENVIRONMENT***

1. Community participation and consultation
2. Timely alerts and information
3. Green space development
4. Heath policies
5. Enforcement of anti littering laws
6. Monitoring network
7. Climate-based research, development, and technology
8. Incentives for cleaner energy sources
9. Promoting alternate disposal methods

In conclusion, the youth manifesto represents a laudable effort by students to address environmental challenges in Mumbai. However, to achieve meaningful impact, it must prioritize integration, feasibility, resource allocation, stakeholder engagement, and robust monitoring mechanisms. By addressing these gaps and focusing on key environmental issues and demands, the manifesto can serve as a catalyst for positive change in the city's environmental policies and practices.

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# METHODOLOGY OF THE YOUTH MANIFESTO

In the creation of the Youth Manifesto, a meticulous and democratic methodology was employed to ensure that the voices of the youth in our community were accurately represented. The following steps outline the methodology that guided the development of this manifesto:

## ***1. Engagement and Outreach:***

To initiate the manifesto drafting process, a comprehensive outreach effort was launched. This involved reaching out to youth organizations, schools, colleges, and community groups, as well as utilizing online platforms and social media to gather a diverse range of opinions.

## ***2. Surveys and Questionnaires:***

Surveys and questionnaires were designed and distributed to collect quantitative data on the key concerns and aspirations of the youth. These surveys were made available both online and in physical forms to maximize participation.

## ***3. Focus Group Discussions:***

Focus group discussions were organized to delve deeper into specific issues. These discussions provided qualitative insights and allowed for a more nuanced understanding of youth perspectives.

## ***4. Expert Consultations:***

Expert consultations with professionals in various fields, including environmentalists, healthcare practitioners, educators, and urban planners, were conducted. These experts provided valuable insights and recommendations.

## ***5. Thematic Committees:***

Thematic committees were formed to address key areas of concern identified through surveys and discussions. These committees included members from diverse backgrounds and were tasked with drafting specific proposals and demands.

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### **6. Community and Ward Level Workshops:**

Workshops were conducted at the community level to ensure that the manifesto resonated with the grassroots. These workshops provided an opportunity for youth to participate in shaping the manifesto directly.

### **7. Orientation and distribution of the forms of the forum**

The forum rules regulations and procedures were discussed with the youth of Mumbai. We invited an expert to also address the topic on why there is a need of the youth manifesto.

### **8. Forum was conducted (Drafting and Review):**

The thematic committees drafted proposals and demands based on the input received. The initial draft of the manifesto was reviewed by a core team, experts, advisors, which included representatives from each thematic committee, ensuring a cohesive and comprehensive document.

### **9. Feedback and Iteration:**

The draft manifesto was circulated for feedback among the youth and the wider community. Revisions were made by experts, advisors to provide additional insights and suggestions.

### **10. Finalization:**

The final version of the manifesto was compiled, taking into account all feedback and revisions. It was reviewed and approved by the organizing committee before publication.

### **11. Launch, Presentation and Publication**

The manifesto document will be launched and the document will be presented to administrators, officers, ministries, advisors, experts in the field, our representatives and concerned ministers. The copy of the document will be available on our websites for everyone.

# WAY FORWARD WITH THE MANIFESTO:

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The launch of this manifesto marks the beginning of a journey—a journey toward a city that embodies our collective vision and values. To ensure that our demands and proposals translate into tangible action, we have outlined the following way forward:

***1. Advocacy and Engagement:***

We will actively engage with our community, policymakers, and institutions to advocate for the adoption of the proposals outlined in this manifesto. Our goal is to garner widespread support and commitment to transformative change.

***2. Collaboration and Partnerships:***

We recognize that creating meaningful change requires collaboration. We will seek partnerships with organizations, experts, and stakeholders who share our vision and can contribute to the realization of our goals.

***3. Awareness and Education:***

We will launch public awareness campaigns to educate our fellow citizens about the importance of the issues addressed in the manifesto. We believe that an informed community is more likely to demand and support change.

***4. Monitoring and Accountability:***

To ensure that our proposals are implemented effectively, we will establish mechanisms for monitoring progress and holding decision-makers accountable. Transparency and accountability will be central to our efforts.

***5. Youth Mobilization:***

We will mobilize and empower more youth to join our cause, expanding our reach and impact. By fostering a sense of ownership and agency among the youth, we can strengthen our collective voice.

***6. Policy Development:***

We will work closely with experts and policymakers to develop detailed policy recommendations based on our proposals. These recommendations will serve as actionable roadmaps for change.

***7. Community Engagement:***

We will continue to organize workshops, town halls, and community events to maintain an open dialogue with our community members. Their input will guide our ongoing efforts.

# CONCLUSION

This manifesto is a living document, a testament to our commitment to sustained and meaningful action. We invite our community to join us on this transformative journey, where together, we can shape a city that reflects our shared aspirations and values.

In the heart of every vibrant and thriving community lies the collective spirit and vision of its youth. It is this spirit, fuelled by passion, driven by determination, and guided by a desire for a better tomorrow, that has led us to present this manifesto.

As the youth of Mumbai, we are united by a common purpose—to address the pressing challenges that confront our youth community and to envision a future where every individual can lead a life of dignity and opportunity. Our journey towards this vision begins with this manifesto, a document that represents our shared dreams, hopes, and demands.

This manifesto is the culmination of extensive research, rigorous discussions, and unwavering commitment. It is a testament to the resilience of our generation and our unwavering belief in the power of collective action. Within its pages, you will find proposals that span crucial areas, from environment and healthcare to education and urban development.

As we present this manifesto, we invite every member of our community, young and old, to stand with us. We call upon our leaders and institutions to heed our demands and work collaboratively towards a brighter future. Together, we can overcome the challenges that face our city and build a community that reflects the values of compassion, sustainability, and progress.

This is not just a manifesto, it is a call to action, an invitation to join us on a journey towards transformative change. Together, as a united force, we can turn our shared vision into reality.

Thank you.