



**SUCCESSFUL WORKING MODEL
FOR SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT OF TOURIST
TOWNS
& RECYCLING WASTE SENSIBLY**

**VIJAY MERCHANT
CONVENOR – IPI CONF.**



- **Tourist centers** - large floating population
 - **Matheran** - Smallest Hill station of India
 - **Sensitive eco-system** - declared eco-sensitive on 6th February 2002 by Supreme Court
 - **Main problems** – litter and disposal of solid waste; Hundreds of tons of waste over 50 yrs was never taken down the hill as it was too cumbersome and costly.
 - **Initiative** – Solid Waste Management - ICPE
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“MICRONS”



➤ Formula for successful Solid Waste Management :

- Municipality
- Industry Groups
- Commercial Establishments /Hotels
- Residents Locals
- Officials
- NGO
- Schools

WHY THE PROJECT WORKED ?



All stake holders came to understand the subject and work together.

A multipartite committee was formed

Municipal authority, the NGO - Matheran Bachao Samiti (MBS), ICPE, Hoteliers, shopkeepers and Bisleri



WHY THE PROJECT WORKED ?



- **Regular meetings were held.**
 - **Council – Provided separate plot for dry wastes collection**
 - **ICPE - involved recyclers to take waste away from the hill for recycling.**
 - **The loop was completed**
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Awareness, Education & Communication - Why & How ?



- A series of meetings were held at Matheran between the Committee and the Matheran Municipal Council.



Awareness, Education & Communication - Why & How ?



- The commercial establishments helped in putting up sign boards for anti litter messages.
- The Council provided separate bins for wet and dry waste collection.
- Jumbo bags were provided by ICPE for plastics waste collection.

Awareness, Education & Communication - Why & How ?



- Awareness activities were conducted by ICPE in the schools to educate the locals people.
- Bisleri installed Compactor Machines to crush PET bottles.



Improvements seen



- Now almost 20,000 to 25,000 empty bottles are carried away monthly in tourist season time which go to PET recyclers.
- 30 to 40 bags of used polybags, packets, wrappers are taken away twice a week by self employed villagers from valley below who have linked up with recycling units near Karjat, Mahad, Ulhasnagar etc.
- Steady income stream is now in place for 8 to 10 families who have learnt a new vocation.



Matheran is now clean and free of garbage

Recognition & Rewards



- **Matheran - declared one of the cleanest hill stations of India in November 2002.**
- **Won unique appreciation by the Expert Committee on New & Proposed Eco-Sensitive Zones constituted by Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF).**
- **The state awarded Matheran the Cleanest Municipality at district level and 2nd cleanest in Konkan Division.**
- **Matheran - a model hill station with a complete waste management system.**



Replicable Anywhere Now

- **Similar projects undertaken at :**
 - Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani,
 - Nagothane,
 - Darjeeling,
 - Kalimpong,
 - Kolkatta,
 - Chennai,
 - Tirupathi

Forward Path



Where local bodies are committed and citizens join in to change age old practices remarkable success is possible.

Considerable waste is recyclable and natural beauty of tourist centres can be restored in the country.



Thank You