

BMC: 98% of household waste now collected at doorstep

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THE BMC has claimed that 98 per cent of household garbage is now collected through its door-to-door mechanism.

According to the latest data compiled by the civic body's solid waste management (SWM) department, BMC workers are currently collecting garbage from almost all households across the city, with only 2 per cent households yet to be covered under the scheme.

Data shows that until October, out of the total 18.68 lakh households, BMC staff collected garbage door to door from 18.55 lakh households in the city and suburbs.

Municipal officials claimed that G-South (Worli, Mahalaxmi) ward with 97.71 per cent and N Ward (Ghatkopar) with 97.98 per cent are top performers when it comes to collecting garbage from households. In G-South Ward, there are total 33,086 households, of which 32,328 are covered by door to door collection, while in N-Ward's 1,14,362 households, 1,12,054 get door to door collection.

A senior official in the SWM department said, "We have tried hard to achieve door to door collection. Many awareness programmes, workshops and campaigns have been organised with the help of housing societies and commercial establishments to explain to the people about the

city. There are several spots on the roadside where community bins are stationed. These are major hurdles for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists."

"Garbage overflowing from these bins is a very common sight. We are now eyeing achieving 100 per cent door to door collection over the next few months," he added.

According to the data, Mumbai's C ward (Kalba, Bhuleshwar) is lagging behind in collecting garbage from households with 85.50 per cent coverage rate. There are 4,255 households in C ward, of which 3,630 have been covered, said officials.

For two years now, the BMC has had pushed hard for door to door collection of waste under the central government's Swachh Bharat Mission.

Along with door to door collection, civic officials have also claimed good progress in waste segregation. Till October, out of the total 18.68 households in the city, 73.12 per cent were segregating wet and dry waste, officials show.

However, activists point out that more efforts are needed to eliminate community bins from the city's streets. Kalyan-based RTI activist Shakeel Siddiqui said, "There are improvements in household garbage collection but people still throw garbage into their community bins. The BMC should first make them aware about the elimination of community bins, and then move the bins. There are se-