

Problem Statement: POO-Connect

Beyond the glitz and glamour of the city of Pune is another reality — the filthy public toilets. They are unhygienic, no tap or water, no latch on the door, stained toilet bowls, remains of a sink, beer bottles and cigarette butts thrown around. Finally, there is the unbearable stench! The whole problem arises because of the poor maintenance of public toilets. Contractors, who take the premises for a fixed period, run most of public toilets. The cleanliness of the toilet blocks is mostly not taken care of. Users of the public toilets have no medium to convey their feedback about the toilet block to authorities.

Description of envisioned solution:

A feedback system could be placed in the toilet block in all public toilets, which can record the feedback of the users. The feedback system needs to be user-friendly, simple, in local language, and if possible, pictorial for illiterate people. The feedback can be collected and shown in Municipal offices of particular cities. For the illiterate, a graphic or vocal interface with colour-coded options can be used in feedback mechanisms. However, such a system would require a definite mechanism to be put in place that makes use of the feedback to take appropriate action.

Data needed to create solution:

- A map of all the public toilets available in the city
- Water availability (functional tap in the toilet or water stored outside)
- Door latch
- Lighting
- Database of the contractors.

Intended audience and device needed

Users of Public Convenience (both urban and peri-urban)
A smart phone or tablet is needed.

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