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## Ensure welfare of staff, PCMC tells SWaCH Take care of staff welfare

PUNE: [The Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation](#) (PCMC) has issued a notice to SWaCH, [one of the agencies that collect garbage](#) from houses, asking them to take adequate measures to ensure the safety and welfare of its workers.

The health department of the civic body sent the notice early this month after it received a complaint from Raju Savale, vice-president, environment, Pimpri Chinchwad unit of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS). The PCMC notice has stated that an on-site verification showed that the agency does not provide facilities to its workers.

Drivers of the garbage collection trucks are not given salaries as per the minimum wages rule. They are not given medical care if they sustain injuries and they work without weekly holidays.

The employees who collect garbage do not have uniforms, raincoats, gloves or masks. They are not given provident fund or other insurance scheme benefits.

The PCMC has directed the agency to follow the directives and the conditions in the agreement between corporation and the agency. Shabana Diler, chief executive officer of SWaCH, said, "We have replied to the notice of the health department." Diler refused to give more details.

[SWaCH](#) collects 250 tonne garbage from about 2.5 lakh houses. Garbage from the remaining

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2.5 lakh houses in the city is collected by another agency.

PCMC has provided 110 hopper rickshaws with two separate compartments for dry and wet garbage to collect garbage dumped at designated sites. However, as garbage segregation is not done at source, mixed garbage is collected in the rickshaws and segregated by the employees later.