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## Three new ways to keep roads intact in monsoon

PUNE: The civic body has given some serious thought to resurfacing the city's roads. Since many thoroughfares in the city crumble during the monsoon and angry citizens vent their ire against the civic body, the Pune Municipal Corporation, to maintain and enhance the quality of roads, has turned to several methods.

The civic body has completed work on roads in Gokhalenagar, Wakdewadi, Sahakarnagar, Bhusari Colony, Ideal Colony, Aundh-Baner, Raturaj Society, Gultekdi and Parvati Darshan using the overlay method. It also plans to use a thin white topping method for another 77 km of roads by March 31.

"The civic body has to resurface tar roads every three to five years. Compared to the expenses incurred on resurfacing, the overlay method is more viable," said municipal commissioner Mahesh Pathak in his annual draft budget for 2014-15.

The PMC has two ways to concrete roads. In the overlay method, where the base is strong, concrete layers are directly laid over it. Where the base is weak, it is torn up, grouted and surfaced and then concretised.

Work on the 30-meter development plan road parallel to

Baner-Balewadi highway and a 30-meter road in Kharadi have also begun. "The PMC has completed the road survey and identified roads which need immediate repair. The estimated cost for these repairs is Rs 38 crore. Roads in the city will be intact during monsoon if resurfacing and concreting work is completed before the rains," said Pathak.

The civic body has proposed the use of micro surfacing technology in 2015 to strengthen roads. "This technology helps maintain the quality of roads for five years after construction," said Pathak in his budget speech.

## **White topping**

- It is a cement concrete overlay to strengthen damaged bituminous roads
- It improves the structural and functional capacity of roads
- Very little stress is transmitted by the concrete layer to the pavement base and sub-layers

## **Micro surfacing**

- It is a polymer-modified, cold-mix paving system for streets, highways, and airfields
- A special machine mixes the components and spreads the mixture on the road surface
- The new surface is initially a dark brown and changes to black as water is chemically ejected
- The surface cures quickly, permitting traffic within one hour