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PMC carries demolition drives

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PUNE: The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC), while continuing with its anti-encroachment drives, has now also set its eyes on unauthorised traders, in addition to demolishing illegal constructions.

The Bhavani Peth ward office took action against unauthorised traders who set up wares for sale on footpaths on the Nehru road upto the Seven Loves chowk.

According to a statement issued by the civic body, two truckloads of material, including tables, chairs, old furniture and tyres were seized by the officials.

Action was also taken against pucca encroachments on the road by demolishing 5,000 sq.ft area of illegal sheds, walls, front margins and railings.

The building control department undertook a drive at Dhankawdi where a total of 8,100 sq.ft area was razed with the help of 10 police personnel.

Officials stated that notices were sent to all owners under section 478 (1) of the Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations Act, 1949.

Shops that were illegally operating in the basement section of buildings on Sinhagad road also bore the brunt of the PMC building permissions department's action on Friday.

Four shops and another construction in a parking lot of 2,700 sq.ft area that were operating without proper licence were pulled down by PMC's squads.

A senior civic official said drives against large number of small businesses operating in basement areas will be next on the agenda for the PMC.