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Issued Without Prejudice

Date : 31st July 2015

To : Commissioner, Pune Municipal Corporation cum Chairperson Tree Authority

Sub : **Objection to Felling / Cutting of Trees in PMC limits**

Dear Sir,

1. Our last objection was filed on 30th June 2015 when the first site visit subsequent to the hearing on 20th June 2015 was conducted
2. In that objection we have made it amply clear that by PMC conducting site visits for citizens, a conclusion cannot be arrived at in PMC's favour whether or not trees need to be felled, cut and / or transplanted.
3. Hence we had demanded that PMC appoint an independent technical traffic surveyor to conduct & ascertain vehicle counts which would determine the traffic intensity. Thereafter PMC must find alternate ways to overcome the existing congestion by means of traffic engineering methods such as diversion of traffic, increase of good quality public transport, one-traffic system, staggering of timings for different users of private & public vehicles, etc.
4. All these principles are enunciated in IRC guidelines, codes and mandates. It goes without saying that IRC norms are supposed to be followed all over India, including Maharashtra of which Pune is a part.
5. In addition, Schedule 1 of the rules to the Tree Act 1975 must be complied with
6. After the report by the appointed traffic consultant is complete, it should be uploaded on PMC's website to invite further objections, not necessarily resorting to felling, cutting & transplanting of the existing green cover. In case PMC has conducted such a survey, then needs to be uploaded first before physical site visits are conducted to show that PMC tried their best.
7. Finally it is stated that the minutes of the hearing conducted on 20th June 2015 has still not been sent to the citizens who had appeared.

We would appreciate a hearing in this matter giving minimum one week prior notice.

Thank you. Yours sincerely.

Qaneez Sukhrani
Secretary – Nagrik Chetna Manch