

# Report on All India Shramik Sanman Yatra



## Maharashtra route map of Shramik Samman Yatra

9, 11th to 15th February 2025



**Unite for change**

**Justice, Security and Dignity for all workers**

## 9th February 2025- Gokul Nagar, Sangli

On 9th February 2025, the All India Shramik Sanman Yatra arrived at Gokul Nagar, Sangli. The event was organized with the participation of Muskaan, VAMP, and Sangram Sanstha along with Sangli Rickshaw Association, Ghar Nivara Kendra, Construction Workers' Union, and Avani organization from Kolhapur. The dignitaries of the yatra were welcomed, and the inauguration ceremony took place at Gokul Nagar.

The program witnessed a large turnout of community members and activists from various organizations. Representatives of the yatra, Chinmayee and Nalini, emphasized the purpose of the yatra—to secure labor rights for unorganized workers. They highlighted that while organized workers receive services and legal protections, unorganized workers, despite being a large

workforce, remain deprived of fundamental rights. The yatra seeks to unify such workers across states and advocate for their rights at a national level.

#### **Key Addresses:**

- **Sudhir Patil (Muskaan Organization, Sangli):** Spoke about their advocacy for the rights of over 2000 transgender individuals across Sangli, Satara, and Kolhapur. He acknowledged the support of national and international organizations like NNSW, APNSW, and SWASA in their efforts and appealed to the yatra to support their cause for labor rights.
- **Sangeeta Manoji (Veshya Anyay Mukti Parishad - VAMP):** Shared experiences emphasizing the importance of collective organizing in securing rights. She recounted how sex workers initially faced exploitation from law enforcement and criminals but, through organization, gained awareness and the ability to present their demands at district, national, and international levels. She also highlighted the success of ensuring discrimination-free education for their children, leading many to pursue careers as doctors, engineers, and in the hospitality industry.
- **Shaheen Shaikh:** Appreciated the structured and progressive presentation of the work done by VAMP, recognizing it as a significant step toward securing justice and equality for marginalized communities.
- **Com. Shankar Pujari (President's Address):** Stressed that the yatra aims to unify unorganized workers and ensure they receive the same legal protections as organized labor. The fight for labor dignity must continue at the national level.
- **Meena Seshu (Sangram Organization):** Acknowledged the solidarity of different organizations and urged everyone to participate in the upcoming event on 11th February 2025.
- **Samir Shaikh (Ichalkaranji Activist):** Expressed gratitude to all participants and announced a rally in Gokul Nagar, inviting everyone to join in raising slogans for labor rights.

11 Feb 2025- Sangli



The Shramik Sanman Yatra, which started on January 25, 2025, in South India, was warmly welcomed in Sangli. The event took place at Maratha Samaj Cultural Hall at 12 noon, where unorganized workers marched from Nivara Bhavan, chanting slogans for their rights.

A key highlight was the participation of sex workers from Gokul Nagar, who raised demands such as:

- Extension of State Employee Insurance Scheme to all unorganized workers
- Pension scheme for all unorganized workers, including sex workers
- Minimum wage for all workers
- Priority housing for sex workers
- Protection from violence and dignified treatment in society
- Legal recognition for sex workers under the Trade Union Act

The event began with motivational songs by Miraj Rashtra Seva Dal, boosting the morale of attendees. Speakers emphasized the need to unite unorganized workers to secure their rights and justice.

Prominent speakers included Comrade Shankar Pujari, Meena Seshu, Shweta Damle, Raju Bhise, Shaheen Sheikh, Vidya Swami, Sangeeta, Sudha Patil, and Sadashiv Magdum.

**12 Feb 2025- Pimpri Chinchwad**



The All India Shramik Sanman Yatra reached Pimpri-Chinchwad, Maharashtra, on 12th February 2025. The solidarity meeting brought together autorickshaw drivers, hawkers, domestic workers, waste collectors (Kagat Kaach Aani Patra Vechak), tea stall vendors (Tapriwale), MSME workers, construction workers, and sex workers.

Several speakers addressed the gathering, representing different worker groups:

- Nitin Pawar – Spoke on behalf of autorickshaw drivers and construction workers.
- Subhash Lomte – Represented Hamal and Mathadi workers.
- Manav Kamble – Human rights activist.

- Kashinath – Local union leader for hawkers, autorickshaw drivers, and construction workers.
- Kiran Deshmukh – Spoke on behalf of sex workers.
- Bhagvan (Aajeevika Bureau) – Addressed the rights of industrial workers.

The main demands were as follows in today's meeting:

1. Right to Dignified and Profitable Work: Guarantee dignified and profitable employment for all in rural and urban areas. Recognize all types of workers (e.g., domestic workers, gig and platform workers, home-based workers, construction workers, sex workers, waste pickers, street vendors, porters, mine workers, agricultural workers, fishers, etc.).
2. Workers' Dignity Fund: Provide a minimum monthly allowance of ₹5,000 to all informal workers, starting with those who are registered on E- shram portal.
3. Social Security: Extend ESI (Employees' State Insurance) and EPF (Employees' Provident Fund) to all workers, including self-employed individuals, ensuring dignified social security for everyone.
4. Fair Wages & Pensions: Guarantee a minimum wage based on real living costs, with minimum of ₹26,000 per month. Provide a pension of at least ₹5,000 per month for retired workers, including single women.
5. Street Vendors' & Housing Rights: Stop forced evictions of street vendors (including fish sellers) and homeless people. Ensure proper rehabilitation and dignified work conditions for street vendors. Guarantee affordable rental housing for all workers and reserve land for them.

6. Rights of Sex Workers: Advocate for the recognition of sex work as work, the complete decriminalization of sex work, and the right of sex workers to form trade unions.

### 13 Feb 2025- Yuva Center- Kharghar, Panvel

The All India Shramik Sanman Yatra reached at Youth Center Kharghar Panvel. Maharashtra, on 13th February 2025 .



The All India Shramik Sanman Yatra meeting was held at the Yuva Youth Center in Kharghar, Panvel, Maharashtra, on 13th February 2025. The gathering brought together toll naka workers, domestic workers, street vendors, and sex workers to discuss the challenges they face. Vanita Mane spoke as a representative of the National Network of Sex Workers (NNSW).

The workers collectively demanded:

- Pension and insurance for all unorganized workers.
- Access to ESI (Employees' State Insurance) and other social security benefits.
- Dignity and respect for all informal work.

- Decriminalization and trade union rights for sex workers.

13 Feb 2025- Traditional Fishermen communities



**Meeting with the Traditional fishermen community and their demands:**

- The government should protect the traditional fishing industry.
- Mechanical boats should be banned in this area.
- Contaminated water coming into the creeks should be prevented and measures should be taken against chemical pollution.
- Provision should be made for fishermen coming from foreign regions
- Fishermen should get social security. Get pension.
- We should be included in the town planning process.
- Dedicated land for fish drying.

## 14 Feb 2025- Mandala Basti, Mankhurd



During our visit to Mandala Basti in Mankhurd, we observed several challenges faced by the community.

- The majority of women in the basti are housewives, while some engage in making beaded necklaces. Most men work outside the settlement.
- Mankhurd is home to one of Asia's largest waste dumping grounds, and the basti is built on this landfill. Due to the unstable ground, heavy vehicles like trucks and buses cause noticeable tremors, as expressed by Mr. Imran, Treasurer of Kamgar Sanrakshan Samman Samiti.
- Residents struggle to find stable livelihoods. Many are denied job opportunities and are often required to obtain permits to work in different wards.
- A significant portion of the community earns a living through waste segregation businesses, dealing with materials like chemicals, wood, glass, and clothes—all sourced from the landfill.

- Frequent fire incidents, occurring at least three times a year, pose a serious threat. Since many of these businesses are unlicensed due to lack of land ownership, they receive no government compensation or support in case of losses. Instead, they are burdened with additional costs for fire department and police services.
- Their demands include - policy interventions to ensure livelihood security, workplace safety, legal recognition for the residents of the basti, housing, health, education for their children, etc.

**14 Feb 2025- Shramik Yatra joined by Gharguti kaamgaar, Dharavi**



**15 Feb 2025- Shramik Yatra joined by Kashtakari Sanghtana- Kasa, Dahanu Taluka**

