



# Conference Summary

28-29 February 2020

Pune



# National Pedestrian Conference on Right to Walk

On 28-29 February 2020, a National Conference on “Right to Walk” was successfully organized by Parisar at S.M. Joshi Socialist Foundation, Navi Peth, Pune.

The keynote speakers were Sujit Patwardhan, *Trustee and Hon Secretary, Parisar*, Mahesh Zagade, *Former CEO, PMRDA, Former Transport Commissioner, Maharashtra, Former Municipal Commissioner, Pune* and Avaneesh Akhoury, *Head-Healthcare & Medical Expertise, AXA Business Services*. Keynote speakers spoke about a variety of issues related to pedestrians and stressed that working on these issues is the need of the hour.

During the two-day conference, participants had the opportunity to attend various sessions and discuss topics and develop recommendations. Topics included: Pedestrians’ empowerment, health implications of walking, air pollution and its impact on pedestrians, the role of street designs in walkable cities. Sessions lasted for 90 minutes which included a Q&A for each session. In between the sessions, various activities were planned, including street play, movie screening, city-walk, etc.

STEP (Steps Toward Empowering Pedestrians), a citizen pedestrian forum was launched with an aim to bring pedestrians together in an organized manner to demand their right to walk in the city. The forum will engage with people all over the city to bring about awareness of pedestrian rights and advocate for change on ground through people’s participation.

Photo contest competition was organized on the theme “Pedestrian in the City’ and the results were announced at the event. Selected photos were displayed in a photo exhibition.

At the end, we explored ways in which pedestrians must organize and fight for their rights.





Website: Parisar - [parisar.org](http://parisar.org) | STEP - [www.stepwalk.in](http://www.stepwalk.in)

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