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**Overview**

The Maratha community's demand for reservations in educational institutions and government jobs has been a longstanding issue in Maharashtra. Comprising around 33% of the state's population, historical factors such as land fragmentation and agrarian distress have led to social and economic challenges among the Marathas. The demand for reservation under the Socially and Educationally Backward Class (SEBC) category gained momentum over the years. Despite a recommendation by the Gaikwad commission in 2017 and subsequent legislative efforts, the Supreme Court, in 2021, struck down the Maratha reservation, citing the 50% cap on total reservations established in 1992. The court emphasized that no "exceptional circumstances" existed in Maharashtra to breach the limit. As of 2022, the state government has suggested economically weaker Maratha members benefit from the 10% quota for Economically Weaker Sections until the reservation issue is resolved.

Current Scenario

The enduring issue of Maratha community reservations in Maharashtra has prompted activist Jarange to undertake a march, seeking resolution. Despite comprising around 33% of the state's population, the Marathas face social and economic challenges, leading to the demand for reservations under the SEBC category. The Supreme Court's 2021 decision to invalidate the Maratha reservation, citing a 50% cap on total reservations, heightened the need for a resolution. The state government's proposal for economically weaker Marathas to benefit from the 10% EWS quota adds a temporary measure. In response, activist Jarange urges Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to earnestly address the issue. Simultaneously, the local administration deploys 700 police personnel to prevent any untoward situations during the anticipated march.

Security Concerns need to be addressed-

- Crowd Management
- Traffic Congestion
- Protest Dynamics
- VIP Security
- Public Safety
- Communication Breakdown
- Health and Medical Emergencies
- Counter-Protests
- Public Property Protection
- Monitoring Social Media

Traffic Advisory for Maratha Reservation Rally: 23/01/2024 and 24/01/2024

Rally Departure: The march will commence from Ranjangaon, passing through Koregaon Bhima, and will halt at Chokhidani, Kharadi on Nagar Road.

Diversions from 03:00 hrs:

- Mumbai - Pune Expressway, Kolhapur, and Satara traffic to Ahmednagar redirected via Katraj – Khadi Machine Chowk Mantarwadi Phata Hadapsar, Solapur Road, and Kedgaon Chaufula – Nhavare Shirur.
- Traffic to Ahmednagar via Wagholi and Lonikand from Theur Phata (Solapur Road) diverted to Shirur, then proceeding to Ahmednagar via Nhavare road Kedgaon Chaufula.
- Pune City to Ahmednagar traffic to take Kharadi Bypass, right turn at Magarpatta Chowk, left turn onto Solapur Road via Yawat Kedgaon Chauphula - Nhavare Shirur.

24/01/2024:

Rally Route: From Chokhidani, Kharadi, through Pimpri Chinchwad Police Commissionerate, and halting at Lonavala.

Diversions:

- Ahmednagar to Pune City traffic rerouted to Solapur Road via Kesnand Theur starting from Theur Phata (Lonikand).
- Wagholi area traffic diverted through Wagholi Avalwadi Manjari Khurd Manjari Budruk - Keshavnagar Mundhwa Chowk.
- Pune City to Ahmednagar traffic redirected via Chandrama Chowk Alandi Road Junction, Vishrantwadi- Dhanori- Lohgaon- Wagholi.

Important Contact Details and Links

- **Fire : 101**
- **Police : 100**
- **Child Helpline : 1098**
- **Traffic Helpline : 1073**
- **Ambulance : 102, 108**
- **Women Helpline : 1091, 181**
- **National Emergency Number : 112**

For a detailed list of the Hospitals in the area- <https://pune.gov.in/public-utility-category/hospitals/>

For Detailed Traffic Advisory-

- <https://punemirror.com/pune/civic/maratha-reservation-rally-traffic-diversions-for-tomorrow-know-details/cid1705906491.htm> -
- <https://www.punekarnews.in/pune-traffic-alert-maratha-reservation-march-on-jan-23-24-police-issue-diversion-routes/>