

## **BOOSTING BAPPA'S CHEMISTRY WITH CITIZENS**

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Year after year, Ganpati immersion in rivers has evoked criticism, given the deteriorating state of the water bodies. In a bid to reduce number of immersions in water bodies, the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has come up with an idea that will enable people to dissolve idols at home. On Wednesday, a special demo programme was organised at the Balgandharv Rangmandir on JM Road for public, where PMC officials along with the National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) scientists demonstrated the procedure. Pune mayor Prashant Jagtap, PMC additional commissioner Rajendra Jagtap, NCL senior scientist Shubhangi Umbarkar and officials of Cummins India, who have funded this project were present during the occasion. "A solution made of ammonium bicarbonate — a common rising agent — used by bakeries can dissolve idols made of plaster of Paris. The sludge from the process and calcium sulphate can be used as a fertiliser," said Umbarkar. Mayor Jagtap said the project has been underway since a year and a half, to stop water pollution. "This year we are going to distribute 10 tonnes of ammonium bicarbonate free of cost among citizens. Each family will receive up to 2 kgs," Jagtap said.



PIC: NIKHIL GHORPADE

## **GALLERIES**









**Usain Bolt** 

**SILVER SINDHU** 

PV Sindhu and Carolina Marin

**PV Sindhu** 

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