



News

Panvel Based Cyclists Pedal From Kanyakumari To Kashmir For A Cause

Tag : cycling, India, Jammu & Kashmir, Kanyakumari, Kashmir, Panvel, Cyclists

Kashmir to Kanyakumari has been one of the most famous routes in the last few decades amongst the travelers. It has also found a mention in the SRK's famous movie 'Chennai Express'. People take their Jeep, cars or even the bad ass riders take their Royal Enfield. But 2 young cyclists from Panvel are riding on this route upside down in a way not many people would prefer. Sumeet Paringe (26) and Prisiya Madan (22) from Panvel currently may be crossing the Karnataka state border to venture into Telangana. From the last 12 - 14 days, they are continuously pedaling from Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu.



"The southernmost point of India is blessed with three things - the Vivekananda Rock, an endless coast and rejuvenating calmness. But I will remember it for the stormy winds we encountered when we started cycling on NH7. Another honorable mention from the first day was the temperature, a whopping 44 degrees Celsius, and there were no trees planted by the roadsides!" says Paringe, in an email interview. No, they are not pedaling on any advanced sports bicycle, but a very unique sustainable bamboo framed cycle specially designed by Godrej. "The bamboo bikes have been a great partner until now as we can cycle for almost 100 kms a day," he adds. However, this is just the first leg of their journey.

Over the next 2 months, the duo will pedal all the way to the highest motor able pass in the world, Khardung La in Jammu & Kashmir. This great vision comes with a great cause. This journey is a part of an ongoing campaign to support the education of girl child. The campaign is up for crowd funding on Fuelmydreams.com. It has already managed to raise 10 Lakh out of its overall goal of 50 Lakh.

"In India, educational opportunities for girls from socially and economically disadvantaged communities are minimum due to lack of schools, gender discrimination, broken families and safety concerns. IIMPACT focuses on primary education of underprivileged girls, from six to 14 years of age, who have never gone to school. The group teaches girls how to read, write and calculate, with the system of teaching taking them from junior kindergarten levels to Class V in achievable

stages. Through the initiative, we aim to support the education of minimum 1,500 girls," informs Nirmala Tandon, CEO (Honorary) at the nonprofit, adding, "While the cyclists are on the road striving towards their aim to reach Khardung La, we wanted to help them raise funds for the cause they are riding for. So, the campaign will be up for the entire duration of the journey."

The **cyclists** will cover 11 states, including Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, New Delhi, Haryana, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir, which amounts to a rigorous 4,400 kms.

Source - Mid day

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