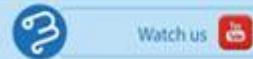


Our Values

- Let's be heard
- Let's be proud
- Let's be progressive
- Let's be fair
- Let's be green
- Let's be accountable

COMMITTED TO PROMOTING
A **BETTER LIFE** FOR
CITIZENS OF **BANGALORE**



B.PAC
 **.CLIP**
CIVIC LEADERSHIP INCUBATOR PROGRAM
Let's Govern Better

THE B.CLIP SPECIAL

We are 9.6 million Bangaloreans standing at crossroads. We can either choose to **build a city** on the foundations of **transparency, accountability and sustainable development** or we can lead ourselves into a **city of deprivation, poverty, corruption and bad infrastructure**. Through our interventions at **B.PAC** we notice a change in the mood of the educated middle class trying to engage in various ways to make a better Bangalore. What is needed is a **platform** supported by adequate training that **would meet the changing aspirations of urban India** that is demanding better governance. B.PAC provides the perfect platform and the **B.PAC Civic Leadership Incubator Program (B.CLIP)** the necessary training.



Mayor B.S. Sathyanarayana of Bangalore lights the lamp to begin the inaugural session of B.CLIP on 6th December 2013

Keeping in mind the need to create entire cadres of talented and dedicated civic leaders, B.PAC announced **B.CLIP** a few months ago and the program was **formally inaugurated** by the **Mayor of Bangalore** on December 6th. Though these are early days, the program so far has been successful in bringing together under one roof what Bangalore direly needs, a pool of concerned and proactive citizens eager to engage with the political system on civic and governance issues.

In this **special edition** of the newsletter you will **uncover the story behind B.CLIP**.

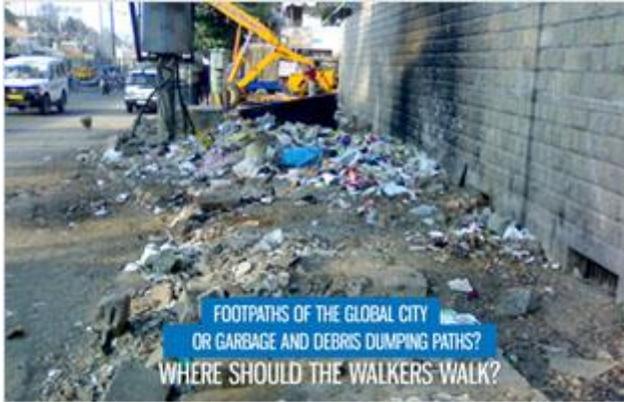
Read on.



WHY B.CLIP?

The foundations of a vibrant democracy are built on the participation of citizens in local self-governments. Since decentralisation of powers began between the three tiers of governments, attempts to create a strong local government have been tardy and half- hearted. There are several reasons as to why this sort of lethargy has occurred in the local governments.

In the course of our discussions and brainstorming sessions at B.PAC, we realized that no emphasis is laid on the burgeoning issues at the grassroots level. **“There are some issues that need to be solved at the micro level by the local leadership. We can hardly go to an MLA or MP whose primary role is to work on legislative matters, to directly resolve our day-to-day problems like fixing potholes and ensuring garbage collection and disposal”**, says Ms Revathy Ashok, the COO of B.PAC.



At the level of the ward, the Corporator is at the helm of affairs- contracts are awarded, financial decisions are made but most of the time, the Corporator has no experience in matters of public policy and finance. The BBMP is burdened with a debt of over Rs 4000 crore and since we do not want Bangalore to be the next Detroit, we need to have responsible and accountable leadership who will handle our finances intelligently. This is how the idea of B.CLIP took root.

“We cannot start with a bad crop of people as it brings no scope for change or improvement. Local governments require people derived from the grassroots who can understand the ground realities and make changes accordingly”, says Revathy, “only then will things take a turn for the better. And that is what B.CLIP seeks to do.”





Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, the President of B.PAC addresses the media at the launch of B.CLIP on 20th September 2013.

CREATING LEADERS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

A spirit of disenchantment, resignation and cynicism had overtaken the public when it came to the political affairs of the country. B.CLIP was specifically created to counter this problem. The objective of B.CLIP was to not just stop at advocacy of civic rights and ensuring that the people vote but also to ensure that the people had someone to vote for at the grassroots.

“The political parties hadn’t thought of an initiative like B.CLIP and since we are a non-partisan Trust, we believed we could select and groom a pool of people who could transform the latent urban apathy into positive urban engagement”, states Sridhar. Pabishetty Chief Programs Officer, B.PAC. “We went to each political party and told them about our cause. The parties identified their best people and sent them to us. Moreover, about 100 applications that we received were from people who were not affiliated to any political party.” states Sridhar

When the applications closed for the first batch of B.CLIP, we had over 250 applicants; some affiliated to parties and some who were not. There were citizens who already had a long body of work in the area of civic issues and some who were fresh and new to the area of public service. There were citizens from every strata of society with varying backgrounds. Yet, they were united in their passion and commitment in trying to transform and make Bangalore a world – class city.

Of the 250 people who had applied to B.CLIP, 177 were called to the interview. They underwent a rigorous and exhaustive interview process and finally 66 people were selected for the first batch of B.CLIP. **“The process of interviewing the candidates was a very revealing exercise and it reaffirms our faith that democracy is very much alive in urban India and that all urban Bangaloreans are not necessarily apathetic, they need a platform and B.PAC hopes to provide that.”** says Kiran Mazumdar Shaw.

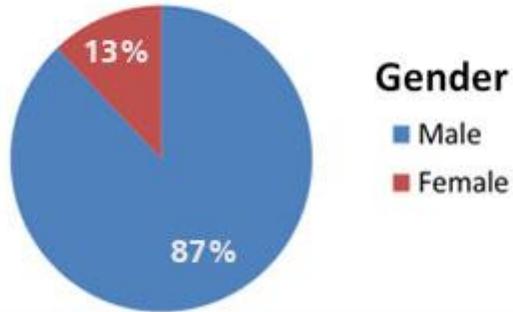
The candidates had interesting and diverse backgrounds. There was a candidate who worked on Sakala and another who holds a PhD and works on lake development projects, we also had a nominated Corporator in the mix and the list goes on.

Over 250
Applications Received

70% of Applicants
invited for
interview

66 participants
selected

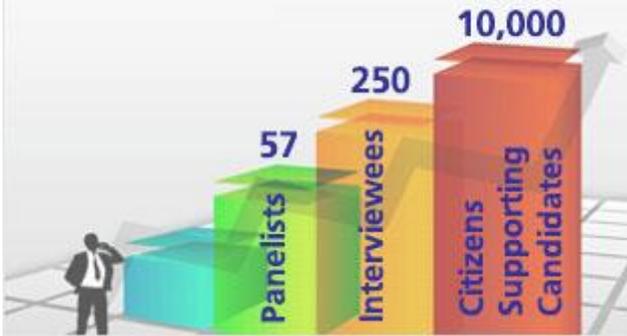
All Applicants



The candidates came from 21 constituencies from across Bangalore. This greatly fosters B.PAC's agenda of inclusivity and giving space to distinct, yet diverse voices across the city. Among the selected 66 candidates, 12 are women. Though women constitute a smaller number than what we would have ideally liked to see, we are encouraged by their enthusiasm and initiative in taking up a space that is traditionally male dominated. The necessity to have gender diversity in the political decision making process is an important part of B.PAC's goals and through further batches of B.CLIP we hope to steadily improve participation of women.

At the core of B.CLIP's agenda is to select and groom people to contest in the 2015 Municipal elections or to whom politics and /or civic engagement is a long term commitment. The entire selection and interview process was set up in a way to identify their commitment to public service, transparency and good governance that had the potential to transform the city. **"Building a strong cadre engaging in grass root politics is a must if we have to solve the myriad problems of this city. We wanted candidates who are keen to engage with the community and work on ward level problems to improve the city. We also understand that not all of them will contest elections, but what we want them to be on ward committees and act as active representatives of citizens in the interaction with the political leadership of the city",** states Mohandas Pai, Vice President, B.PAC **"B.CLIP on its own is a nine month long commitment so we had to ensure that the people we were getting on board were in this for the long haul."**

Citizen's engagement in B.CLIP



QUESTIONS AND PROBES - THE PANELISTS' ROLE

The candidates underwent an entirely different sort of litmus test when they were called in for the interview round. The interview process was a mammoth operation; over 60 panelists came in to the B.PAC office over the course of two weeks to help us in narrowing down the right candidates. Every candidate had to face a three member panel- a B.PAC member, an academician and a civil society representative who would question them on various issues concerning the city and the state. B.CLIP runs on the core values of B.PAC and being proponents of a vibrant democracy, we wanted inclusivity and commitment to public service to define our panels' decisions. **"We were pretty choosy about the kind of candidates we were getting on board as B.CLIP is a free program and we wanted candidates who would fit in with our core values and validated by our external independent panelists. Having three panelists from three distinct fields with diverse views made sense"**, states Sridhar, "The role of the academician was to look at the political and economic aptitude of the candidate while the civil society representative would look at the candidate for leadership and execution skills and commitment to ongoing civic engagement by the candidate."

The support we received from all the panelists has been of the highest order. Despite having busy schedules they still gave us their precious time to help us choose the right candidates for B.CLIP.



Kiran Mazumdar Shaw and K. Jairaj with the Mayor and the Commissioner of Bangalore before the inauguration of B.CLIP

LENDING OUT MORE THAN ADVICE

B.CLIP for all intents and purposes has been the most ambitious and challenging project we have undertaken till date. An initiative such as this has not been attempted before and along with such a situation comes the challenge of the unknown. “The Advisory Board which consists of people from most of the political parties helped us in understanding the edifice and dynamics of running a program like B.CLIP and navigating this challenge of the unknown”, says K. Jairaj, Convenor B.CLIP and Secretary, B.PAC. “Through constant discussions and engagement with us at B.PAC, the multiparty Advisory Board created a sense of neutrality and unbiased political agenda that has been a core value of B.PAC. “



Unveiling the B.CLIP courseware at the inaugural session

PARTNERS IN CREATING A BETTER BANGALORE



Students of the first batch of B.CLIP listen earnestly as Nitin Pai of Takshashila addresses them.

While the Advisory Board gave us valuable insights into program design, marketing and execution of B.CLIP, our knowledge partner Takshashila Institution custom designed the entire curriculum to meet with the broader objectives of B.CLIP. “The kind of work that Takshashila Institution has done and their background was well suited for B.CLIP. Through the course of several meetings, Takshashila Institution created some great content and innovative course delivery mechanism that seeks to make B.CLIP an “IIM ” of the political space, says Revathy. For us, the objective is to not merely to run the program but to have a much larger and deeper outcome. “The objective of the program is to create civic and political leaders who have the commitment and the drive to transform the city and also lead to the emergence of new leaders on both the civic and the political side”, adds Revathy.



The enthusiastic change- makers of the first batch of B.CLIP.



The chief guests and B.PAC members listen intently as Sridhar Pabishetty explains the B.CLIP selection process and results at the inauguration of B.CLIP

TOGETHER WE CAN!

The kind of support B.PAC has received from applicants, panelists and the general public has been overwhelming. For many people who have worked for years towards making Bangalore a better place, B.PAC has been the right platform to reach out to a large number of people. From those who couldn't participate in B.CLIP due to age and health reasons, we received awe- inspiring letters that thanked us for taking this bold initiative and offered support in other forms to enable us to continue our endeavour.

Through the course of making B.CLIP happen, a lot of media interest was generated and we were featured in several national and international publications and this helped in furthering our cause . Click here to read our feature in Epoch Time, a New York media company. Chai with Lakshmi, an award winning online talk show also featured us in their 1000 stories of Inclusive India.

The B.CLIP story isn't over yet. December 6th , 2013 was a significant milestone, that of the inauguration of the first batch of B.CLIP. The event saw the Mayor , Dy Mayor and Police Commissioner coming out and addressing the selected 66. The B.PAC Civic Leadership Incubator Program is an exercise in democracy at a time when the urban citizens of the country have shown interest in clean politics. and good governance



Kiran Mazumdar Shaw - President B.PAC

OUR VIEW

Title: [Strong Winds of Change](#)

By: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

Publication: Business Standard

Date: 09 Dec 2013

December 8, 2013, will denote a tectonic shift in Indian politics that saw the centre of gravity tilt from politicians to the people. It was a democratic reawakening of and by the people calling for new rules of engagement. No longer were people willing to be held hostage to false electoral promises. No longer were voters willing to sell their vote and their parties and no longer were people willing to put up with mis-governance and non-performance.

[\(read more\)](#)



Mohan Das Pai, Vice President, B.PAC

OUR VIEW

Title: [An Election of Hope!](#)

By: T V Mohandas Pai

Another celebration of democracy in 5 States across India. All the more exciting because many were looking to understand trends for the Lok Sabha elections of 2014. The country faces various challenges, high inflation for the last 4 years, low growth and lack of jobs for our youth, a dysfunctional Parliament, an aggressive challenger and lack of strong leadership. The world seems to mock us with Italy, Maldives, Sri Lanka, an US University and our old foe Pakistan leading the way, almost saying it was open season. Our business leaders are despondent, our political leaders over active eagerly eyeing the spoils of power and citizens beaten down with worry about the future.

([read more](#))

Title: Poll results have shown youth want jobs and growth, not doles anymore:

Mohandas Pai

Publication: [Economic Times](#), ETNow

Date: 08 Dec 2013

ET Now, caught up with Mohandas Pai, Former CFO & Head-HR, Infosys for his views on the assembly election outcomes.

ET Now: How are you reading the verdict that has been given across Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh? It is a clean sweep for the BJP in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, but if you look at Delhi, it has seen the rise of Aam Aadmi Party on the back of an issue that you have spoken very vocally on, the whole corruption agenda and the whole governance agenda.

Mohandas Pai: Well let me say that there are three distinct trends that are coming out in these elections. The first is that the youth of this country clearly are voting for change, are voting for jobs and for economic growth and there has been an increase in voting percentages in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi. In Chhattisgarh there has also been an increase in the voting percentage, though Manipur has not seen much of an increase. This essentially means that the youth are coming out and voting and they clearly want something else, apart from all the doles that have been given by this party. They do not want to dig holes in the ground. They do not want free food, they do not want the 'muft ka dawa', what they want are jobs, jobs and jobs alone and that is the clear trend.

[\(read more\)](#)



Print

Month	Headline	Publication
September	Share your ideas for better governance	TOI , DC , DH , TH , ENS , IE , VK , PV
October	More than 200 apply for B.PAC's course on political leadership	BM , DNA
November	B.PAC writes to CM on how to better B'lore	TOI
	Better roads under Tender SURE: BBMP Commissioner	DC
December	Refreshing Democracy: Indian City Grooming Commoners as Future Leaders	EPOCH TIMES
	Step in as a Citizen, Step Out a Politico	ET
	City Crusader	BS
	Educated evading taxes: Mayor	DC
	Time to make our leaders accountable	DC

	B.Pac to train city dwellers in civic governance for 2015 BBMP polls	DNA , TH , IE , TOI , VV
	We hope for a new set of civic leaders	TOI
	The dream of a better Bangalore	TOI , VV , PV

Online

Month	Headline	Publication
September	Share your ideas for better governance	Times of India
	B.PAC launches programme to train prospective BBMP corporators	Citizen Matters
October	More than 200 apply for B.PAC's course on political leadership	Bangalore Mirror
December	Refreshing Democracy: Indian City Grooming Commoners as Future Leaders	EPOCH TIMES
	66 people chosen for civic leadership incubator programme	The Hindu
	All for a better Bangalore: techies take to civic leadership programme	NDTV
	BPAC launches leadership training to clip the wings of misgovernance in the city	Citizen Matters
	Step in as a Citizen, Step Out a Politico	Times of India
	'We hope to create new set of leaders'	Times of India

TV Channel Coverage

Month	Headline	Publication
December	AAP effect or Genuine want for change?	NDTV 24x7



Before we bid you farewell till the next time we come back with our newsletter, let us remind ourselves of a few important things.

We have to be aware, be progressive, be fair and be better.

Let us join hands and make Bangalore a world class city.

But most importantly, the applications for the second batch of B.CLIP are **open till the 31st of January 2014.**

SIGN UP NOW or encourage others you know, to do so!

The application forms are available online at www.bpac.in/bclip or can be requested via phone (9886196640) or email (bclip@bpac.in). They can also be collected at the B.PAC office. (Women candidates are encouraged to apply.)



Thank You Bangaloreans

A movement such as ours can never be successful without the active support of citizens such as you. B.PAC thanks all the volunteers who supported us in the various activities during last several weeks.

Keep up the enthusiasm and passion. We need much more of it in the coming months to collectively make Bangalore a better city.

©B.PAC. This Newsletter is Developed & Designed by Team B.PAC.

It is an initiative to engage with all stakeholders to ensure Good Governance for a Better Bangalore.

Feedback: forbangalore@bpac.in; www.bpac.in