

The B.PAC Times

Vol 62

**FY 2025-26 Q2 Newsletter:
July-September, 2025**

FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Dear Reader,

Wishing you all a joyful festive season! May this season bring warmth, happiness, and inspiration as we continue to work together to make society and nation for all!

This quarter has been nothing short of inspiring. At B.PAC, every initiative we take—whether in classrooms, on the streets, or through policy dialogues—echoes a simple truth: Bengaluru thrives when its citizens care enough to act. The past few months have been a beautiful reminder of how intention, purpose, and participation can transform our city, one small step at a time.

In every bustling street and quiet lane of our city, mobility shapes opportunity. To make that opportunity inclusive and sustainable, we launched the B.SAFE Women Auto Drivers Training Program in Malleshwaram, Rajajinagar, and Shantinagar. The program empowers over 100 women and transgender individuals with the tools to drive change—through training in driving, safety, and financial literacy. The initiative was honoured by the presence of Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister; Mr. S. Suresh Kumar, MLA Rajajinagara and Mr. N. A. Harris, MLA Shantinagara—each echoing their support for women-led transformation in public transport.

Through initiatives like the Participatory Democracy Fellowship with Mount Carmel College and the Youth Parliament with Inventure Academy, B.PAC continued to shape a new generation of civic thinkers and doers. This spirit extended to the School Beautification Project with MLA Rizwan Arshad's office, where 65 volunteers transformed a Government Urdu School, and to Gandhinagar, where a drive with Creatibeeti brought colour and life to classrooms; turning civic engagement into visible change.

Our B.CLIP program continues to be the heartbeat of citizen leadership. With Batch 10 now in session, we're shaping 67 civic leaders ready to serve their communities. This quarter, Sampath Ramanujam took the TEDx stage to share his journey from citizen to civic leader, while our alumni rose to leadership roles in public service.

Under B.GREEN initiative, our environmental efforts grew deeper roots too. The most heartwarming sight was during the Swachhta Month Deepavali Cleanup Drive, organised jointly with GBA. Over 40 key areas across the city came alive with action—B.CLIP leaders, volunteers, pourakarmikas, and residents joined hands (and brooms!) to sweep away pre and post-festival waste weighing up to 170 tons. What emerged wasn't just cleaner streets, but a renewed sense of collective pride and accountability. The Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka Program inspired students across schools to become young guardians of Bengaluru's green spaces, while the Green Ganesha Initiative trained B.CLIP leaders to champion sustainable celebrations.

On the digital front, our social media civic awareness campaigns promoting the BBMP Sahaaya 2.0 App, the ASTraM App by Bengaluru City Traffic Police, and a week-long Civic Sense Campaign encouraged citizens to act responsibly and engage more deeply with their city's ecosystem.

B.MOBILE's Urban mobility transformation also took center stage with the release of our 'IRR Street: Standstill to Active' report, a collaborative, data-led plan to make the 7.5 km Inner Ring Road safer, more accessible, and pedestrian-friendly.

As I look back at these efforts, I'm filled with gratitude—for our partners, volunteers, civic leaders, and every Bengalurean who believes that real transformation begins with showing up. Together, we're shaping not just a better governed city, but a city that listens, includes, and grows with its people.

Thank you for walking this journey with us—one initiative, one community, and one act of courage at a time.

Warm regards,

Revathy Ashok

Hon. Managing Trustee & CEO

Bangalore Political Action Committee

B.SAFE

B.SAFE Women & Transgender Auto Drivers Training Program: Empowering Inclusive Mobility

B.PAC conceived the Auto Driving Skills Training Program to promote inclusive mobility and expand livelihood opportunities for women and transgender persons. In a rapidly growing city where these groups remain under-represented in public transport and often face barriers to safe and dignified employment, the program provides a bridge toward financial independence and social inclusion, while addressing Bengaluru's need for safe, reliable last-mile connectivity.

The free training offers comprehensive instruction in driving, road safety, life skills, and financial literacy, along with license facilitation, rental and fuel support, and access to seed funding through partnerships with financial institutions. This ensures that participants are not only trained but also equipped to sustain their livelihoods by owning or leasing vehicles.

The initiative is supported by CGI under its CSR program and individually by Ms. Chitra Talwar and Ms. Mimi Parthasarathy.

Number of **Learner's License** Received **15**

Number of **Driver's License** Received **271**

Number of **Free Autos** Received **12**

Launch of Auto Drivers Training Program:



Malleshwara

B.PAC, in partnership with CGI, launched the Women Auto Drivers Training Program for Malleshwara & Rajajinagara, marking a significant step toward inclusive urban mobility and financial empowerment. The event was inaugurated by Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and was graced by the presence of Ms. Mimi Parthasarathy, Member B.PAC, Ms. Srividya Natraj & Ms. Sarika Pradhan, Vice Presidents – CGI, Ms. Chitra Talwar, Member B.PAC and Mr. Sudhakar Pai, Head of ESG & Sustainability, CGI



Shantinagara

Building on this success, the next batch was launched in Shantinagara, inaugurated by Shri N. A. Haris, Hon'ble MLA, Shantinagara and Ms Chairperson and MD, Kirloskar Systems Pvt. Ltd.

B.SAFE Women Auto Drivers Training Program Updates



1. Road Safety Awareness Session

The session on Road Safety Awareness was held at the Rajajinagara Traffic Police Station, led by Traffic Inspector Ms. Parvathi. About 50 participants attended the session, which covered the KSP Emergency Response App, road sense, and women's safety.

2. Soft Skills & Digital Literacy Sessions

The session focused on Digital Literacy Training for the Malleshwara and Rajajinagara batches, led by B.CLIP Leaders, helping participants build essential digital and communication skills to support their professional journey.

3. Phase 1 Achievements

A major milestone was achieved as 23 women from the Malleshwaram and Rajajinagar batches successfully passed their Driving License Test, marking a significant step toward independent livelihoods and mobility empowerment.

4. Program Expansion at CV Raman Nagar

The program took another stride forward with the launch of the Drivers Training Program at CV Raman Nagar, facilitated by Mr. Sai Prasad Rao, Member, B.PAC.

B.ENGAGED

School Beautification Drive: Brightening Classrooms, Building Community



Mr. Rizwan Arshad, MLA Shivajinagar Participated in the School Painting Drive at Shivajinagar Constituency along with Volunteers

B.PAC, in collaboration with Mr. Rizwan Arshad, MLA Shivajinagara successfully completed a school painting drive at a Government Urdu School, with 65 enthusiastic volunteers coming together to refresh and beautify the learning spaces. Another painting drive was conducted in Gandhinagar in association with Creatibeeti, transforming classrooms and creating a more vibrant environment for students.

Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program: Learning Through Engagement

The Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program (PDFP) by B.PAC gives public policy students a chance to step out of the classroom and experience governance up close. It's where theory meets practice—where students learn to ask the right questions, understand the people behind the policies, and see how change happens. This fellowship doesn't just teach skills; it inspires young minds to become thoughtful, grounded, and impactful changemakers.

As part of the Fellowship Program, Ms. Pushpa Murthy, senior advocate and Mr. Anand Begur, political analyst conducted classroom sessions on Workplace Safety and Understanding the Constituency, equipping fellows with practical knowledge of civic systems and governance.

The program also included a field visit to the ICCC at GBA, where participants met Special Commissioner Mr. Mounish Mudgil, gaining first-hand insights into administrative processes and citizen engagement. This blend of classroom learning and on-ground exposure helps fellows develop a deeper understanding of participatory democracy in action.



B.CLIP Leader & Advocate Pushpamurthy Conducted a Session on Workplace Safety



B.CLIP Leader Anand Begur Conducted a Session on Understanding the Constituency

[Know more](#) about the Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program

Health Talk with Self-Help Group Women

In collaboration with [Prameya Health](#), a health awareness session and check-up were conducted for 50 Self-Help Group (SHG) women. The initiative focused on empowering participants with knowledge about preventive healthcare, nutrition, and wellness practices. Alongside informative discussions, the women received basic health screenings, enabling them to take proactive steps toward better health.

Youth Parliament Partnership with Inventure Academy

B.PAC has partnered with Inventure Academy to facilitate an engaging knowledge-sharing session for the Youth Parliament. The collaboration included a dynamic panel discussion, providing students with insights into governance, civic responsibility, and effective public debate. This partnership aims to nurture young leaders by combining practical learning with interactive discussions, empowering students to actively participate in democratic processes and understand the workings of parliamentary systems.

How Active Is Your MLA in the Assembly?

B.PAC has compiled comprehensive data on the attendance and questions raised by Bengaluru MLAs during the 16th Karnataka Legislative Assembly (2024–2025). This initiative is part of B.PAC's ongoing efforts to promote transparency and accountability in governance. By making this information publicly accessible, citizens can better track the performance and engagement of their elected representatives, ensuring that leaders remain answerable to the people they serve.

Source: Data obtained through RTI from the Secretary, Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Vidhana Soudha.

[Know More](#)

B.CLIP

B.CLIP Batch 10: Next Cohort of Civic Leaders in the Making



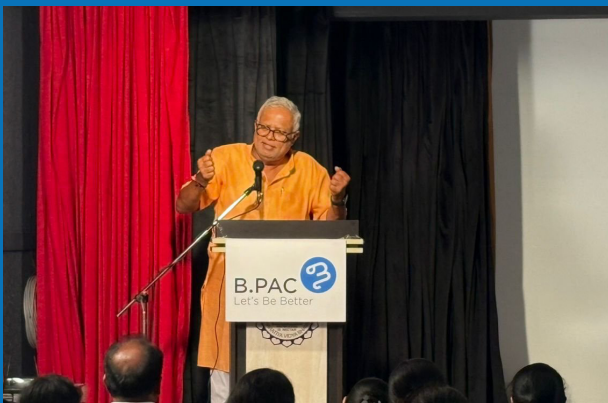
Ms. Revathy Ashok, CEO & Managing Trustee, B.PAC along with Mr. Jairaj, Secretary, B.PAC Launched the B.CLIP Batch 10.

We are excited to announce that classes have commenced for 67 passionate individuals of the 10th batch of the B.PAC Civic Leadership Incubator Program (B.CLIP). This year, the program received an overwhelming 270 applications—a testament to the growing civic spirit in Bengaluru. Launched on July 19, 2025, at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, the inaugural event featured inspiring addresses by Ms. Revathy Ashok, CEO of B.PAC, and Mr. K. Jairaj, IAS (Retd), Secretary, B.PAC, who encouraged the new batch to lead with purpose and integrity. B.CLIP is more than a leadership program; it's a platform that empowers citizens to transform Bengaluru from within, combining knowledge of urban governance, policy-making, and ethics with hands-on fieldwork that drives real, lasting civic change.

B.CLIP Batch 10 Sessions Kick Off

The journey for Batch 10 of the B.PAC Civic Leadership Incubator Program (B.CLIP) is in full swing, with expert-led sessions designed to inspire and equip Bengaluru's next generation of civic changemakers. From governance and urban planning to leadership and communication, participants are gaining insights from distinguished speakers and practitioners who bring real-world experience into the classroom.

[Know more](#) about how B.CLIP Batch 10 participants are gaining insights, skills, and inspiration from experts.



S. Suresh Kumar
MLA Rajajinagar



Prof. Rajeev Gowda
Former Member of Rajya Sabha



Rizwan Arshad
MLA, Shivajinagar



Vishal IAS,
Director, Fiscal Policy Institute,
Finance Department, GoK.

B.CLIP Batch 10 Sessions Conducted in 2025 Q2

Orientation Session

by Team B.PAC & Mr. B. L. Shankar, Ex-MLC

My Journey – Grassroots Civic Leader to Cabinet Minister

by Mr. S. Suresh Kumar, MLA, Rajajinagar

Gender Sensitization and POSH

by Ms. Pushpa Murthy, High Court Advocate

Public Speaking and Team Building

by Mr. A. R. Govindaswami, Theater Artist & President, Banjara Bhasha Academy

Indian Constitution

by Mr. Harish N, High Court Advocate & Member, B.PAC

Media Management and Public Speaking

by Mr. Gourish Akki, Senior Journalist

WMAP & Ward Quality Scores

by Mr. Manjunatha, State Program Manager, Janagraha

The Role of Civic Leaders in Building a Better Bengaluru

by Mr. Chinnagiriappa, Ex-Corporator

Ward Mapping

by Team B.PAC

The History of Bengaluru: Insights on Inscription Stones

by Mr. Udayakumar P. L., Historian

Ward-level and Neighborhood Planning Processes
by Ms. Brinda Sastry, Consulting Urban Planner and Designer

Bengaluru's Urgent Needs
by Mr. Ashwin Mahesh, Urbanist

Narrative Building
by Mr. Ravi, State General Secretary, AAP

Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill 2025
by Mr. Rizwan Arshad, MLA, Shivajinagar

The Role of Media in Protecting the Rule of Law
by Mr. Bharath Joshi, Political Bureau, Deccan Herald

Preparation for Model Parliament Competition
by Mr. Harish N., High Court Advocate & Member, B.PAC

My Political Journey
by Prof. Rajeev Gowda, Former Member of Rajya Sabha

Status of Democracy & Role of Political Parties in India
by Prof. Sandeep Shastri, Political Scientist

Civic Engagement
by Mr. Amit Nigly, B.CLIP Alumni Association

From Classroom to Community: Lessons from Active Civic Leaders
by Ms. Uma Rajeshwari, Ms. Sathyavani, Mr. Saravanan S., Mr. Kempuraja, and Mr. Vinod Karthavya, B.CLIP Leaders

Introduction to Communication & B.GREEN Program
by Team B.PAC

Urban Administration – Perspective of an Administrator
by Mr. Vishal IAS, Director, Fiscal Policy Institute, Finance Department, Government of Karnataka

B.CLIP Study Tour: Learning Beyond the Classroom



B.CLIP 10 Participants at Sir M. Vishweshwaraiah Rain Water Harvesting Theme park in Jayanagar

As part of their experiential learning journey, B.CLIP Batch 10 participants embarked on insightful study tours that brought classroom concepts to life. Over 60 civic leaders visited Vidhana Soudha, gaining a first-hand understanding of legislative processes and the functioning of the state assembly. In another field visit, participants explored Sir M. Visvesvaraya Rainwater Harvesting Theme Park in Jayanagar, guided by BWSSB Engineer Sunil, where they learned about innovative urban water management and rainwater harvesting systems in action.

B.CLIP Alumni Initiatives

B.CLIP alumni continue to translate their civic leadership training into real impact across Bengaluru's neighborhoods.

Sathyalakshmi Rao led a beautification drive at Bovi Colony in Thyagarajanagar, enhancing public spaces for the local community.

Venilla organised a bus stop clean-up and debris removal drive at Ramaswamy Palya, promoting civic responsibility and cleanliness.

Divyashree Kiran took the initiative to restore streetlights on 60-Foot Road in Kottigepalya, improving safety and accessibility for residents.

These efforts exemplify how B.CLIP leaders are driving positive, citizen-led transformations across the city.

B.CLIP Leaders Rising Through the Ranks



B.CLIP Leader
Ms. Pallavi Chidammbar
Has Been Appointed as
Secretary of State,
Karnataka Pradesh Mahila Congress



B.CLIP Leader
Ms. Pallavi S. Prabhu
Has Been Appointed as President,
Bangalore West District
Mahila Congress

We congratulate two of our B.CLIP civic leaders for securing remarkable positions in their respective political parties. Their achievements highlight the growing impact of B.CLIP alumni in shaping inclusive and participatory governance, embodying B.PAC's vision of empowering citizens to lead positive transformation in the city.

B.CLIP Leader Sampath Ramanujam on the TEDx Stage at St. Paul's College



B.CLIP leader Mr. Sampath Ramanujam recently took the TEDx stage at St. Paul's College, sharing his inspiring journey—from being a concerned citizen to becoming an empowered civic leader through B.PAC's Civic Leadership Incubator Program (B.CLIP). What began as individual efforts to address civic issues evolved into a transformative leadership experience. Through B.CLIP, Sampath gained the knowledge, tools, and mentorship to channel his passion into purpose—learning how to engage with government systems, mobilize communities, and drive meaningful change.

B.PAC continues to nurture a strong network of young civic leaders shaping Bengaluru's future—citizens who recognise that sustainable change begins with informed leadership and collective action.

[Watch full video](#)

B.MOBILE

‘IRR Street: Standstill to Active’ Report Released



The Inner Ring Road (IRR), once known for congestion and unsafe conditions, is undergoing a remarkable transformation. Connecting key neighbourhoods like Indiranagar, Ejipura, Domlur, and Koramangala, the stretch is evolving into a model of what Bengaluru can achieve through collaboration between citizens, government, and institutions. Since June 2023, B.PAC, in partnership with BBMP, BMTC, Bengaluru Traffic Police, and BSWML, has led a data-driven and participatory effort to make the corridor safer, more walkable, and better connected through reliable public transport.

The release of the IRR Street: Standstill to Active report by Maheshwar Rao, IAS, Chief Commissioner – Greater Bengaluru Authority marks a major milestone in this journey. The report highlights both the progress made—such as improved crossings, safer junctions, and pilot interventions—and the roadmap ahead. With active engagement from government bodies, experts, and citizens, the initiative stands as a model for creating inclusive, sustainable urban spaces and reaffirms Bengaluru’s capacity to lead in thoughtful city transformation.

THE B.PAC IMPACT

IMPACTS



10

audits & analysis
completed



10

buses,
123 trips/ day added
to MF5 & 201G



4

blackspots
transformed.
Saving Lives



45+

streetlights
added



4325

tonnes

debris & soil
cleared



129

tonnes

garbage
removed

Check out the reports!

[IRR Street: From Standstill to Active Summary Report](#)

[IRR Street: From Standstill to Active Detailed Report](#)

[Check out the IRR Newsletter](#)

Guest Faculty Session for Bhutan Transport Officials at IIHS

B.PAC was invited as guest faculty at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) to deliver a session on “Evidence-Based Case Studies on Transport Planning for Hilly Regions.” The session brought together 15 transport planners, urban planners, and engineers from the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan, offering practical insights and strategies for effective transport planning in challenging terrains.

B.GREEN

Deepavali Cleanup Drive: Community Unites for a Cleaner, Greener Bengaluru

The Deepavali Cleanup Drive, jointly organised by GBA and B.PAC, stood as a remarkable example of collective civic responsibility and community action. Conducted across 40 locations in Bengaluru, the initiative brought together B.CLIP civic leaders, pourakarmikas, residents, and numerous volunteers with one shared goal—to ensure a cleaner and greener post-festival city.

Through coordinated efforts, the teams successfully collected and segregated over 170 tons of waste, restoring the city's vibrancy after the festive celebrations. Beyond waste collection, the drive also aimed to reinforce the importance of responsible waste management, citizen participation, and sustainable urban living—values that lie at the heart of B.PAC's civic engagement initiatives.

Acknowledging the selfless service and dedication of Bengaluru's pourakarmikas, B.PAC, with the generous support of Mazumdar Shaw Philanthropy, distributed sweet boxes to every pourakarmika across Namma Bengaluru. This heartfelt gesture, now in its fifth consecutive year, symbolises gratitude and respect for those who work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to keep our city clean and livable—turning every day into a Deepavali celebration for all Bengalureans.

1	No of Locations	40*
2	No of Civic leaders joined	150+
3	No of PKs involved (approximate)	1000+
4	Garbage removed (approximate)	170 Tons

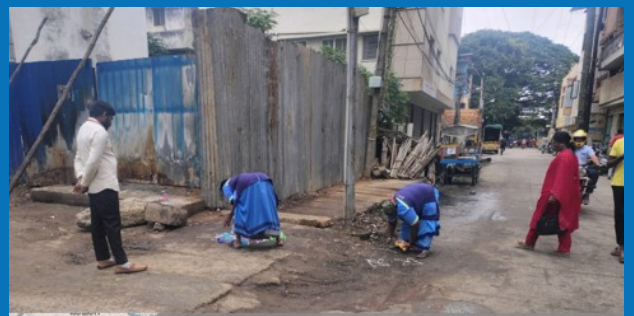
Before



After



ನಂತರ



	Decimal	DMS	
Latitude	12.958583	12°57'30" N	
Longitude	77.591442	77°35'29" E	23°C

	Decimal	DMS	
Latitude	12.958566	12°57'30" N	
Longitude	77.591432	77°35'29" E	23°C

Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka Program Cultivates Young Environmental Stewards Across Bengaluru



Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka Program at Cottonpet BBMP School

2nd Pilot Successfully Completed at Cottonpet BBMP School

The second pilot of the Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka Program was successfully held at Cottonpet BBMP School for Class 10 students. Through hands-on learning and interactive sessions, students explored topics like tree conservation, planting techniques, and sustainable living, fostering a sense of ownership and care for Bengaluru's green spaces.

Sessions Conducted in 5 Schools Across East & R.R. Nagar Zones

In September, the program reached five more schools across the East and R.R. Nagar zones. By combining education with action, these sessions encouraged students to become active contributors to urban sustainability, promoting awareness on waste management, tree care, and environmental responsibility.

B.PAC's 'Green Ganesha' Initiative Trained B.CLIP Leaders to Promote Eco-Friendly Celebrations



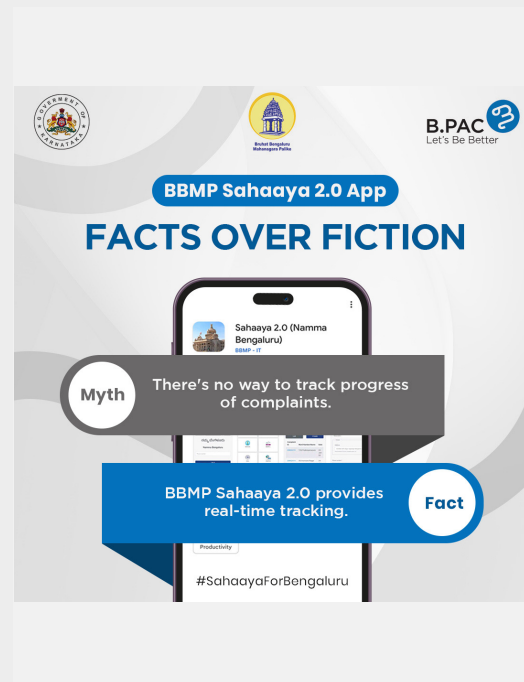
Train the Trainer Session Conducted for 50 B.CLIP Leaders

As part of B.PAC's ongoing commitment to sustainable community practices, the Green Ganesha program brought together over 50 B.CLIP leaders for a 'Train the Trainer' session designed to equip them with practical knowledge and tools to promote eco-friendly Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations. The program emphasized the importance of using natural materials, minimizing pollution, and fostering community awareness to protect Bengaluru's lakes and environment during the festive season.

Communication & Outreach

BBMP Sahaaya 2.0 App Campaign — Reporting Civic Issues Made Simpler

B.PAC launched a digital campaign to promote the BBMP Sahaaya 2.0 App, highlighting how citizens can now report civic issues effortlessly from potholes and garbage collection to streetlight complaints. The campaign encouraged active citizen participation by showcasing the app's user-friendly interface and quick grievance redressal process, making it easier for Bengalureans to play a hands-on role in improving their neighborhoods.



ASTraM App — Navigate Bengaluru with Ease

Through a city-focused digital awareness campaign, B.PAC promoted the ASTraM App a game-changing tool that helps commuters navigate Bengaluru's complex public transport network with ease. The campaign spotlighted how ASTraM integrates real-time bus routes, schedules, and last-mile connectivity, empowering citizens to make sustainable travel choices while reducing dependency on private vehicles.



Civic Literacy Week — Building a Culture of Good Civic Sense

B.PAC conducted a week-long Civic Literacy Campaign to foster awareness about good civic behavior and responsible citizenship. The campaign focused on everyday actions that make a collective difference—proper waste segregation, adherence to traffic rules, water conservation, and active participation in community initiatives. Through engaging visuals, videos, and citizen stories, the campaign inspired Bengalureans to uphold civic pride and contribute to a cleaner, more accountable city.



BPAC IN MEDIA

B.PAC continues to feature prominently in media coverage, sharing insights on urban development, civic governance, and public policy initiatives that shape Bengaluru's growth and sustainability.

Akashwani Gold FM Delhi Broadcasts B.PAC's Insights on the Impact of Namma Metro's Yellow Line, highlighting its impact on urban mobility, traffic decongestion, and commuter convenience.



Ms. Revathy Ashok, Honorary CEO & Managing Trustee of B.PAC, shared insights on the English news show 'Urban Transport Infrastructure: Connecting People and Empowering Cities':

[Watch Full Video](#)



Ms. Priyanka Krishnan, Research & Program Associate, B.MOBILE program, contributed her perspective on the Hindi news show:

[Watch Full Video](#)



Acknowledgement

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our supporters, Funders, partner organisations, para-statal agencies, media, civic groups, B.CLIP civic leaders, and volunteers who continue playing a vital role in our efforts to create a better future for Bengaluru.