

The B.PAC Times

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FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Dear Bengalurigas,

As we conclude the third Quarter, we at B.PAC see this period as a defining chapter in Bengaluru's civic journey. Q3 was not about interventions. It was about laying strong, deliberate foundations for the year ahead and for the kind of Bengaluru we aspire to shape in 2026: one that is governed better, moves safer, includes everyone, and responds meaningfully to its climate realities.

The Greater Bengaluru Authority Conclave brought together political leaders, administrators, experts, institutions, and citizens to examine decentralisation, legislative intent, and implementation of pathways for Bengaluru's evolving governance framework. Sri D K Shivakumar, Honorable Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka during the keynote address assured us an efficiently run Bengaluru Corporation through the GBA and urged us all to support the government to create a greater and a better Bengaluru. These discussions reinforced the importance of coordination across agencies, accountability at the local level, and citizen-centric planning as the city transitions toward a more complex metropolitan structure.

Equally significant was the focus on student engagement and public policy learning. Through the Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program, young citizens were immersed in the lived realities of governance. By conducting walkability audits, assessing government schools and civic assets, and presenting evidence-based recommendations to elected representatives, students moved beyond theory into meaningful civic participation. This cohort demonstrated that informed youth engagement is not a future aspiration.

Our Safety related initiative continued to prioritise dignity, inclusivity, and livelihoods. The free Women and Transgender Auto Drivers Training Program reflected a holistic approach to empowerment, combining skill development. New batches were started in Shantinagara and Dasarahalli with 49 participants. Recognition of CGI through the Auto Ratna CSR Award was an affirmation of this work, but the true impact lay in enabling safer, more secure livelihoods for women and transgender drivers navigating the city every day.

Under our sustainable mobility efforts, we reinforced our commitment to safer streets through data-led action and collaboration. Project Saving Lives translated crash data into targeted traffic-calming interventions at high-risk blackspots, demonstrating how thoughtful design and institutional coordination can prevent fatalities. Complementing this, on-ground road safety awareness campaigns brought behavioural change into focus, engaging commuters through creative, youth-led initiatives that made safety visible, relatable, and urgent.

Our work under B.GREEN invested in the city's long-term resilience. The Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka pilot projects connected thousands of students across BBMP schools and colleges to the Bengaluru Climate Action and Resilience Plan. Through experiential learning, climate concepts were translated into a practical understanding of waste, water, mobility, energy, and behavioural change. These young climate stewards are now better equipped to contribute to sustainability efforts within their neighbourhoods and wards.

Our communications and outreach efforts amplified all of this work. Campaigns such as SPEE FEE transformed citizen observations into actionable civic data, strengthening sanitation enforcement and public accountability. Digital storytelling through youth-led climate campaigns ensured that civic participation extended beyond physical spaces into public discourse, reinforcing transparency and collective responsibility.

None of this progress would be possible without the sustained support of our partners, institutions, government stakeholders, civic leaders, students, volunteers, and communities. We remain deeply grateful for the trust placed in B.PAC and for the shared belief that Bengaluru's challenges can be addressed through collaboration, evidence, and persistence.

As we move into the coming quarter and look ahead to 2026, we do so with clarity and conviction. The groundwork has been laid. The systems are strengthening. The conversations are maturing. What lies ahead is the collective task of building on this foundation to shape a Bengaluru that is safer, greener, more inclusive, and governed with integrity.

Warm regards,

Revathy Ashok

Hon. Managing Trustee & CEO

Bangalore Political Action Committee

B.ENGAGED

B.PAC Hosted “The Greater Bengaluru Authority: A Pathway to Better Governance of Namma Bengaluru” Conclave

October 8, 2025 | Bengaluru

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) represents a major shift towards stronger, decentralised urban governance. To examine its vision, legislative framework, and implementation roadmap, the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC), in collaboration with Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru, hosted a conclave titled “The Greater Bengaluru Authority: A Pathway to Better Governance of Namma Bengaluru.”

The conclave brought together elected representatives, senior administrators, urban planners, policy experts, and engaged citizens to deliberate on building a more efficient, accountable, and citizen-centric governance model for Bengaluru.

Key Sessions & Highlights

Government’s Vision for Greater Bengaluru

Delivering the keynote address, Shri D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister, outlined the Government of Karnataka’s vision for a unified governance framework under the Greater Bengaluru Authority, in conversation with Maya Sharma, Senior Journalist.

He reiterated the government’s focus on infrastructure, mobility, waste management, and service delivery reforms, the acceleration of the 104 km Bengaluru Business Corridor, and the fast-tracking of elevated corridors, tunnels, and road projects.



“I urge all Bengalureans, especially the youth, to join us — let us all build a Greater Bengaluru,” Shri D.K. Shivakumar.

Building Institutional Synergy



A high-level panel moderated by Ms Revathy Ashok, Hon. Managing Trustee & CEO, B.PAC, featured Shri Maheshwar Rao, IAS, Chief Commissioner, GBA, senior officials from GBA, BMRCL, BSWML, BMT, city police, and urban planning experts. The discussion focused on strengthening coordination between parastatal agencies and urban local bodies.

Ms Ashok highlighted the absence of a dedicated mobility chapter in the GBA framework. Responding to this, Shri Maheshwar Rao affirmed that mobility would remain a top priority, with immediate focus on pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, improved footpaths, and promotion of active mobility.

Addressing concerns on illegal dumping, Shri Karee Gowda, IAS, CEO, BSWML, announced plans for city-wide weekly collection drives for bulk waste such as discarded furniture and sanitary ware, with similar initiatives proposed for small-scale construction debris.

Legislative Intent & Citizen Impact



In a conversation moderated by Smt Nithya Mandyam - journalist, Shri Rizwan Arshad, MLA, Shivajinagar and Chairman, Joint Select Committee on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, along with Shri Ravichandar V., Urbanist, discussed the rationale behind the proposed legislation and emphasised decentralisation as the cornerstone of citizen-centric governance, noting that multiple corporations would bring decision-making closer to citizens.

Way Forward

The conclave reaffirmed the importance of participatory governance, decentralisation, and institutional collaboration in realising the vision of a “Greater Bengaluru.” Through initiatives like this, B.PAC continues to create platforms for informed dialogue between government, experts, and citizens—paving the way for a more liveable, transparent, and globally competitive Bengaluru.



Student Engagement

Youth Engagement and Public Policy Learning Initiatives

Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program

The 5th Cohort of the Participatory Democracy Fellowship Program was conducted in association with B.PAC, Mount Carmel College – Department of Public Policy, and the Office of the MLA, Shivajinagar. The cohort commenced with 13 student fellows.

The fellowship began with an interactive orientation led by Shri Rizwan Arshad, MLA, Shivajinagar, who emphasised learning governance through lived, on-ground realities rather than theory alone. Fellows were subsequently trained in civic audit methodologies, ethical engagement, and rigorous documentation. With guidance from B.PAC and the MLA's office, students developed structured survey tools focusing on walkability, public education infrastructure, and civic assets.

Fieldwork included:

- A walkability audit covering approximately 11 km of major pedestrian corridors, highlighting issues such as discontinuous footpaths, encroachments, poor lighting, and lack of universal accessibility.
- Government and BBMP school audits, building on earlier studies conducted in 2020 and 2023, which showed partial improvements alongside persistent gaps in sanitation, safety, ventilation, and inclusive infrastructure.
- Assessments of civic assets such as Indira Canteens and pedestrian subways, demonstrating how maintenance and activation influenced their effectiveness as community spaces.

At the culmination, student teams presented their findings and recommendations to the MLA in a detailed review session. Shri Rizwan appreciated the evidence-based approach and encouraged collaboration with relevant departments to translate insights into action. Certificates were personally distributed, marking the fellowship as a meaningful step toward participatory and accountable urban governance.

MSRIM Students engagement

Nine students from MSRIM successfully completed a comprehensive survey of seven Green Line metro stations, assessing existing infrastructure and identifying critical blackspots. Following the findings, advocacy efforts were undertaken with the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Commissioner and his office, leading to the initiation of targeted clean-up drives at the identified locations.

KSPCB

Recognising the critical role of real-time air quality data in strengthening urban climate response, the program initiated an exploratory engagement with the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to access existing air quality data and identify high-pollution hotspots across the city. The engagement focused on understanding the availability of data on approximately 100 identified air quality hotspots.

Donation to Namma Clinic by Mimi Parth Sarathy in Bommanahalli Constituency.

With the support of Ms Mimi Parth Sarathy, essential medical equipment was donated to a Namma Clinic in the Bommanahalli Constituency. The contribution included a refrigerator and critical surgical equipment, strengthening the clinic's capacity to deliver improved healthcare services to the community.



B.CLIP

RRR Maadi in Mahadevapura

In collaboration with the Proximity Project, a Repair Café drive was successfully organised in Seegehalli, with active support from B.CLIP leader and Panchayat member Sampath Ramanujam. The initiative encouraged citizens to repair and reuse everyday items, promoting sustainability, reducing waste, and fostering community participation at the grassroots level.



Convening of B.CLIP Leaders on Climate: Replication of Climate Leadership

The B.CLIP Leaders' Meet on Climate Change brought together political leaders from across constituencies to exchange climate action strategies, discuss scalable local solutions, and explore the replication of models such as RRR Maadi across wards.

The convening focused on strengthening individual climate initiatives through a collective platform, enabling successful sustainability models to be shared, adapted, and scaled beyond isolated pilots. Discussions highlighted constituency-level actions aligned with key BCAP sectors, including lake rejuvenation, groundwater recharge through shoulder drains, solid waste management initiatives, urban forestry, and concerns around declining air quality due to vehicular emissions, construction activity, and dust. Policy challenges, including those related to solar panel adoption, were also discussed.

Deepavali Sweets Distribution

As part of the Deepavali celebrations, we distributed sweets to pourakarmikas across various parts of Bengaluru. We actively coordinated the distribution to ensure that the sweets reached all designated locations smoothly and on time.

Key Highlights

- We have given 33,000 gifts boxes to GBA Sanitation workers and drivers.
- 10 MLAs involved in this initiative.

B.CLIP Batch 10 – Session details

- **Fundraising at Grassroot Level**

Speaker: Mr Ravi Kumar, B.CLIP
Leader & AAP State Secretary, Karnataka

- **Bangalore City Timeline**

Speaker: Mr Raghavendra H.S., Team B.PAC

- **Devolution of Funds to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) – with a focus on GBA and related issues**

Speaker: Mr K. M. Kempegowda, Consultant,
5th Finance Commission

- **What is a City? & GAP Analysis**

Speaker: Mr Ganesh Chakravarthi,
IT Professional & Public Policy Enthusiast

- **Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage – Present and Future**

Speaker: Mr Thippeswami, Retired Chief Engineer, BWSSB

- **Critical Role of Technology and Data Analytics in Electoral Politics**

Speaker: Mr Raghuraj, CEO – Smart Netha

- **Public Relations in the Current Age of Changing Technologies**

Speaker: Mr Kenny Ramanand, Political Consultant

- **Staying Put as a Civic and Political Leader – Real-world Challenges**

Speaker: Mr Sharath S.R., B.PAC Team

- **Role of Social Media in Political Communication**

Speaker: Ms Shilpa Nagaraj, Rudra Communications

- **Right to Information Act**

Speaker: Mr Veeresh Bellur, RTI Activist

- **From Groups to Institutions: Purposeful Building 101**

Speaker: Ms Soumya Nandan, Director, Takshashila Institution

- **Practices for Collaborating and Aligning with Local Organizations**

Speaker: Mr Anand Teertha, B.PAC Member

- **Profile Building & Media Management**
Speaker: Mr S. E. Sudheendra, B.CLIP Leader
- **Final Presentation – Demo**
Speaker: Mr Raghavendra H.S., Team B.PAC
- **The Future of Cities Isn't Vertical — It Is Connected**
Speaker: Mr Naresh Narasimhan, Architect, Urbanist & Creative Entrepreneur
- **Final Presentation**
Speaker: Mr Amith Sattur, Mr Ajay Kumar, Mr Raghavendra H. S., Ms Geetha, Mr Ramesh Chander
- **Resident Welfare Association; Karna Kavach for B.CLIP Leaders**
Speaker: Mr P. Ramesh Chander, B.CLIP Leader & Entrepreneur
- **Importance of NGO's in Political Life**
Speaker: Mr Ravi Kumar, Founder & Managing Trustee, Full Circle Trust

Field Visit

- **Field Visit / Study Tour to ELCITA**
Speaker: Colonel Anirudh Gudi, ELCITA Manager
- **Study Tour: Traffic Management Centre (TMC)**
Speaker: Mr Ataulla Baig, ASI, TMC Head Office



B.SAFE

Women Auto Driver Training Program

CGI, B.PAC's B.SAFE Constituency CSR Partner, received the "Auto Ratna – CSR Award" for its contribution to empowering women and transgender auto drivers through the Women Auto Drivers Program with B.PAC. The award was presented at the Drivers Day 2025 celebration.

As part of the Free Women Auto Drivers Training Program, trainees from the Shantinagar batch participated in a field visit to the Police Command Center, where a dedicated "Working with Police" session was conducted. The session focused on building awareness, strengthening coordination with law enforcement, and equipping participants with practical insights to navigate their work safely and confidently.

In addition, the trainees attended a digital literacy session, along with discussions on pursuing auto driving as a full-time livelihood, including guidance on financial planning and the steps involved in purchasing an auto. Together, these sessions aimed to empower participants with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed for sustainable and secure livelihoods. Ms Shalini and Ms Yuktha from CGI conducted an engaging one-hour training session focusing on customer etiquette and basic English communication to strengthen their professional skills and confidence.



B.PAC, with the support of CGI, successfully conducted the launch of the Women & Transgender Auto Driving Skills Training Program in Dasarahalli, in the presence of Mr S. Muniraju, MLA – Dasarahalli, along with B.CLIP leaders and local women auto drivers.

B.MOBILE

Project Saving Lives

Project Saving Lives is a road safety initiative by B.PAC, supported by WRI India, aimed at reducing fatal crashes and grievous injuries by improving high-risk crash blackspots in Bengaluru. Using crash data from the Bengaluru Traffic Police, six blackspots in the GBA Central Zone were identified across Command Hospital Road, HAL Old Airport Road, Old Madras Road, and the Baiyyappanahalli Flyover, and context-specific traffic-calming interventions were designed.

B.PAC organised joint site inspections and review meetings with Bengaluru Traffic Police, GBA Central (Shanthinagar Division) officials, and WRI India to assess road geometry, validate proposals, and gather feedback. A standardised intervention template for crash-prone road geometries was also presented, with detailed proposal drawings to be submitted to GBA for execution.

On-ground Road Safety Awareness Campaign at KR Circle

B.PAC x MSRIM x Bengaluru Traffic Police

B.PAC organised a Road Safety Awareness campaign at KR Circle in collaboration with the Ramaiah Institute of Management and the Bengaluru Traffic Police. As part of the conclusion of their two-week Community Engagement Program, 13 MSRIM students engaged directly with riders and drivers, encouraging the use of ISI-certified helmets, seat belts, and adherence to traffic rules.

The campaign also sensitised commuters to provide adequate crossing time for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users. A student dressed as Yamaraj added a creative and engaging element, playfully warning road users about the risks of unsafe helmets and careless driving, drawing attention from commuters at the busy junction.



IRR Street: Standstill to Active

Hon'ble Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre, Chairman of the Supreme Court Committee for Road Safety, visited the transformed crash blackspot at the Airview Junction on the Intermediate Ring Road (IRR). During the visit, B.PAC and the Bengaluru Traffic Police presented insights on crash data analysis, traffic-calming design interventions, stakeholder involvement, on-ground execution, and the measurable impact of these efforts in saving lives.



Awards & Recognitions



Ms Priyanka Krishnan, Program Head – B.MOBILE, was recognised as a Remarkable Young Voice in Transport 2025 (India) by GIZ India and MoHUA. One of 18 change-makers under 35, her work IRR Street: Standstill to Active was featured in a special publication launched at the 18th Urban Mobility India Conference 2025 in Gurugram.

Ms Divya S., Program Associate, B.MOBILE, has been selected for the Youth Transport Fellowship by the UMI Fund and Clean Mobility Collective. As part of this global cohort, she will lead the “Bus First” youth campaign in Bengaluru to promote accessible, low/zero-emission public transport, higher ridership, and safer, more equitable mobility.



B.GREEN

Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka projects successfully completed in BBMP schools

Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka is a collaborative initiative by B.PAC and TE Connectivity India Pvt. Ltd., implemented in partnership with the Bengaluru Climate Action Cell (CAC), to advance the goals of the Bengaluru Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP) through meaningful student engagement.

The programme focuses on building environmental awareness among government school and college students, enabling them to support Climate Action Cell initiatives and contribute to BCAP implementation within their wards. Through structured Information, Education and Communication (IEC) modules and activity-based learning, students are introduced to urban sustainability challenges and their role as young climate stewards.

Delivered through an experiential learning curriculum, the training simplified complex climate concepts such as climate versus weather, global warming, thermal comfort, health impacts, and ecological balance. The programme also emphasised behavioural change through the “10 R’s” of sustainability and addressed key urban issues, including solid waste management, water systems, public transport, and sustainable energy. Field activities and interactive exercises ensured practical application of learning.

Training sessions were conducted across 34 educational institutions, including 17 high schools, 9 PU, 4 degree, and 2 PG colleges, reaching over 7,500 students through 125+ hours of engagement, supported by 15 master trainer volunteers. The reinforced B.PAC’s commitment to building informed, responsible, and action-oriented youth for a climate-resilient Bengaluru



Communication & Outreach



SPEE FEE Campaign

SPEE FEE is a citizen-led social media initiative by B.PAC addressing the persistent issue of spitting and public urination across Bengaluru. The campaign enables citizens to report sanitation violations by sharing photographs and location details of recurring hotspots.

These reports are amplified through Bengaluru Post's social media platforms and consolidated by B.PAC for follow-up with respective GBA Commissioners, supporting targeted enforcement and timely corrective action. By combining citizen participation, social media visibility, and institutional coordination, SPEE FEE promotes cleaner public spaces and responsible civic behaviour.

Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka Awareness Campaign

B.PAC amplified youth-led climate action through the Yuva Hasiru Rakshaka social media campaign, using digital platforms to raise awareness on urban environmental sustainability in Bengaluru. The campaign highlighted student voices, on-ground green actions, and climate-positive behaviours aligned with the Bengaluru Climate Action and Resilience Plan, reinforcing the role of young citizens as active stewards of the city's environment.



Acknowledgements

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.