



The B.PAC Times STHREE Drives Vol 66

Turning Aspirations into Independence

Celebrating 659 Beneficiaries Trained and
20 Auto-Rickshaw Down Payments Facilitated

FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Dear Reader,

Over the years, we at B.PAC have often reflected on what truly makes a city inclusive. Is it only infrastructure and economic growth, or is it also the ability of every citizen to feel safe, visible, and empowered within the city's ecosystem?

The journey of **STHREE DRIVES** emerged from this very question.

As Bengaluru expanded rapidly, we observed three interconnected challenges: women continued to seek safer and more reliable last-mile mobility, thousands of women and transgender persons lacked access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, and women remained significantly underrepresented in the auto-rickshaw sector.

We realised that creating safer cities is not only about roads, technology, or enforcement. Sometimes, safety begins with visibility—when a woman commuter sees another woman confidently driving an auto-rickshaw, and when economic opportunity reaches communities that have historically remained on the margins.

That belief became the foundation of STHREE DRIVES.

What began as a training initiative has evolved into a growing movement for inclusive urban mobility and livelihood empowerment across Bengaluru. Today, the programme has achieved significant milestones:

Beneficiaries Trained: 659 | Beneficiaries Who Received Driving Licences: 514
Beneficiaries Currently Driving Autos: 412

One of the defining moments in this journey was the recent commemorative event organised by B.PAC in partnership with CGI, celebrating the achievements of the Women & Transgender Auto Drivers Training Programme in the presence of Shri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Muzrai, Government of Karnataka.

It was inspiring to witness hundreds of beneficiaries transition into professional drivers, earning livelihoods with confidence while contributing to safer and more inclusive mobility systems. A major highlight of the event was the handing over of **20 auto-rickshaws** to beneficiaries, with down-payment support enabled through CGI's CSR initiative and individual donors. These vehicles represent far more than transportation—they represent dignity, opportunity, and financial independence.

Behind every participant is a powerful story: single mothers supporting their families, widows rebuilding their lives, domestic workers seeking better opportunities, and transgender individuals overcoming systemic barriers to create independent futures. Their resilience continues to be the driving force behind this initiative.

Over the past months, STHREE DRIVES has expanded across multiple Assembly Constituencies, strengthening community ownership and institutional support. We have been encouraged by the active engagement of elected representatives, government departments, civic institutions, and citizens who share our vision of a more inclusive Bengaluru.

We are deeply grateful to our donors CGI, Shri Ramalinga Reddy - MLA BTM Layout, Ms. Chitra Talwar, Ms. Mimi Parthasarathy, Lions Club, United Way, Three Wheelers United, and Fyn Mobility—as well as our implementation partners, government agencies, transport officials, media partners, B.CLIP civic leaders, volunteers, and community stakeholders who have supported this journey.

As we look ahead, our vision remains clear and ambitious: to train **over 5,000 women auto drivers by 2030** and continue building a Bengaluru where mobility is safer, livelihoods are inclusive, and opportunities are accessible to all.

At its heart, STHREE DRIVES is about people. It is about confidence, courage, and the belief that cities become stronger when everyone has a place within them.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for continuing to support our collective effort towards building a safer, more equitable, and compassionate Bengaluru.

Warm regards,

Revathy Ashok

Hon. Managing Trustee & CEO

Bangalore Political Action Committee

STHREE DRIVES: B.SAFE Women & Transgender Auto Driver Training Program

An Overview

What is STHREE DRIVES?

The B.SAFE STHREE DRIVES initiative is a transformative livelihood and urban mobility programme designed to empower women and transgender persons through professional auto-rickshaw driver training.

The initiative addresses three interconnected urban challenges in Bengaluru:

- The growing demand for safe and reliable last-mile mobility
- The need for safer commuting experiences for women
- Limited livelihood opportunities for women and transgender persons in the transport sector

Although Bengaluru has nearly 1,75,000 auto-rickshaws, only around 400 are driven by women, representing just 0.22% of the workforce. STHREE DRIVES was conceptualised to bridge this gap by creating a more inclusive, safe, and people-centric mobility ecosystem.

The programme equips beneficiaries with driving skills, road safety training, licensing assistance, financial literacy, digital capabilities, and livelihood support, enabling long-term economic independence and dignified employment.

The Vision

STHREE DRIVES envisions a Bengaluru where:

- Women and transgender persons actively participate in the city's mobility ecosystem
- Public transport becomes safer and more inclusive
- Livelihood opportunities are accessible regardless of gender
- Urban mobility is people-friendly, equitable, and sustainable

With support from partners and donors, the initiative aims to train over 5,000 women auto drivers by 2030.

The Objectives

The initiative was designed with multiple social, economic, and mobility-focused objectives:

- Sustainable Livelihood & Economic Empowerment
- Gender Inclusion in Mobility
- Safer Urban Mobility
- Capacity Building
- Access & Enablement
- Community Leadership

The Beneficiaries

The programme focuses on communities that are often excluded from formal economic opportunities. Primary beneficiaries include:

- Single mothers
- Widows
- Domestic workers
- Daily wage earners
- Informal sector workers
- Blue-collar workers
- Transgender persons

Programme Structure & Training Model

The Women & Transgender Auto Drivers Training Programme is a structured 60-day professional training initiative.

Key Features

- 200+ hours of training
- Professional auto driving skills
- Road safety education
- Traffic rules and regulations
- Vehicle maintenance basics
- Customer engagement and communication
- Life skills development
- Financial literacy training
- Digital literacy support

Additional Support Provided

- Driving license facilitation
- Regulatory and documentation support
- Vehicle access support
- Rental and fuel assistance
- Post-training handholding and mentoring

The programme is implemented through a structured “Master Trainer” model to ensure consistent, high-quality training delivery.

Donors & Supporting Partners

CSR & Philanthropic Support

The initiative is supported by:

- CGI, through its CSR initiative
- Ms Chitra Talwar
- Ms Mimi Parthasarathy

Their support has enabled the programme to scale its impact across Bengaluru while building sustainable livelihood pathways for women and transgender beneficiaries.

Landmark **STHREE DRIVES** Event

The B.PAC in partnership with CGI, marked a significant milestone in its Women & Transgender Auto Drivers Training Program with a celebratory event. The event was held in the presence of Sri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Muzrai, Government of Karnataka, Revathy Ashok, CEO, B.PAC, Sudhir Sharma, Senior Vice President, CGI, and Jennifer Mecheripaddy, Senior Vice President, CGI.



Sri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Muzrai, Government of Karnataka, Handing Over 20 Electric Autos to women Beneficiaries.

Key Highlights

- 350+ beneficiaries trained under the programme
- Many beneficiaries are now actively operating auto-rickshaws across Bengaluru
- 20 electric auto-rickshaws distributed to beneficiaries
- Down payments for EV autos supported through CGI CSR funding
- Strengthened focus on sustainable and eco-friendly urban mobility

The event celebrated not only employment generation, but also dignity, inclusion, and safer mobility solutions for Bengaluru.

Programme Impact

Social Impact

- Improved livelihood opportunities for women and transgender persons
- Enhanced visibility of women drivers in Bengaluru's mobility ecosystem
- Increased commuter confidence and safer travel experiences

Economic Impact

- Sustainable income generation opportunities
- Financial independence for vulnerable communities
- Reduced barriers to entry into the transport workforce

Urban Mobility Impact

- Safer first- and last-mile connectivity
- More inclusive public transport participation
- Promotion of sustainable electric mobility solutions



Sri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Muzrai, Government of Karnataka, with Other Dignitaries

The program has been implemented across key constituencies, including:

- Malleshwara
- Rajajinagara
- Dasarahalli
- BTM Layout
- Shantinagara
- Mahadevapura



Autos Handed over to the Beneficiaries



Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport & Mujurai, Government of Karnataka

“We are very happy to see this initiative by B.PAC creating meaningful livelihood opportunities for women. The Government of Karnataka will extend all possible support to such efforts, including facilitating licences, helping beneficiaries access relevant subsidies, and enabling infrastructure such as EV charging stations for women drivers. I am also pleased to pledge support from my organisation by donating 10 autos to further strengthen this initiative.”



Revathy Ashok, CEO, B.PAC

“Economic empowerment is one of the most powerful drivers of social change. Programs like this by B.PAC demonstrate how partnerships between civil society, government, and the corporate sector can create meaningful opportunities for women and transgender persons.

It is inspiring to see these drivers stepping into roles that not only support their families but also contribute to building a more inclusive and progressive Bengaluru.

We started with 15 women, and today we have trained over 400 women, and we want to train around 1000 women this year.”



Sudhir Sharma, Senior Vice President, CGI

“At CGI, we believe that true progress is driven by inclusive growth. This initiative reflects how collaborative efforts can create meaningful livelihood opportunities while promoting dignity, independence, and sustainability.

We are proud to support a program that is enabling women and transgender individuals to become active contributors to Bengaluru’s mobility ecosystem.”



Jennifer Mecheripaddy, Senior Vice President, CGI

“This initiative is not just about skill development, but about enabling confidence, financial independence, and social inclusion.

Seeing these women and transgender drivers step forward and transform their lives is truly inspiring, and it reinforces our commitment to supporting such impactful community programs.”



Kumari, Beneficiary

“As a single mother, this program has given me a dignified way to support my family. Today, I feel proud and independent.”

Policy Engagement & Institutional Support

To ensure long-term sustainability and systemic impact, B.PAC has actively engaged with policymakers, government officials, and institutions.



Meetings were held with:

B.PAC met with Hon'ble Union Minister of State Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, MP Bengaluru North, to discuss key amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act impacting auto rickshaw drivers' licensing policies. During the meeting, B.PAC also sought the Minister's support in enabling women auto drivers to access vehicles, aiming to strengthen inclusive livelihood opportunities and improve policy support for the sector.

Vehicle Access & Livelihood Enablement



Mr. Maheshwar Rao, GBA Chief Commissioner to request free auto-rickshaws for trained women drivers.

- B.PAC also collaborated with Shri Sampath Raj, Chairman, Ambedkar Development Corporation, to facilitate free auto-rickshaws for SC/ST women beneficiaries.
- Engagement with Shri Yogeesh A. M., IAS, Transport Commissioner, focused on streamlining licensing and operational support for women auto drivers.

Future Goals

- Train 1,000 women and transgender drivers in the coming year
- Expand programme reach across Bengaluru
- Strengthen EV mobility adoption
- Increase women's participation in public transport systems
- Build safer, more equitable urban mobility networks

Through STHREE DRIVES, Bengaluru is moving towards a future where mobility is not only accessible and sustainable, but also inclusive and empowering for all.

Community Initiatives

May Day Celebrations were organised at B.PAC, recognising and celebrating women auto drivers as essential contributors to Bengaluru's workforce.

Women auto drivers led the launch of a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Manipal Hospital, Yeshwanthpura, enabling free cancer check-ups for women auto drivers—underscoring the programme's focus on health, dignity, and holistic well-being.

STHREE DRIVES IN MEDIA

Transport Minister distributes 10 free EV autos to empower women
HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU
IN a significant initiative aimed at promoting women empowerment and sustainable urban mobility, Karnataka Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy personally distributed 10 free electric vehicle (EV) autos to women and transgender beneficiaries at the Koramangala office in Bengaluru.

E-autos handed over to women drivers in city
BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Sunday handed over 10 electric autos to women and transgender drivers in Bengaluru.

10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋ ವಿತರಣೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

'Govt may provide free autos to women, transgender drivers'
HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU
The Bengaluru Metropolitan Corporation (BMC) is considering providing free electric autos to women and transgender drivers as a part of its initiative to promote sustainable urban mobility and empower women.

10 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ 10 ಇವಿ ಆಟೋ ವಿತರಣೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

ಲಿಂಗತ್ವ ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತರು, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಆಟೋ ವಿತರಣೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

ಮಂಗಳಮುಖಿಯರು, ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರಿಗೆ 10 ಇವಿ ಆಟೋ: ಸಚಿವರ ಕೊಡುಗೆ
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ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸುಲೀಕರಣ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಆಟೋ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

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ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಆಟೋ ನೀಡಲು ಚಿಂತನೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕಾರ್ಡು (BMC) ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚಿಂತನೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

20 women transgenders get free electric autos
BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy announced on Sunday that the government would extend support to women and transgender individuals in availing subsidized electric autos, with the aim to promote financial independence and sustainable mobility.
However, the increasing interest among women in this field was encouraging, he added. BMC CEO Revathi Ashok emphasized the importance of continued collaboration between corporates and government to scale up such initiatives.

BDA to explore possibility of providing autos for free to women, transgender drivers
It is important that women and transgender persons, once trained, are provided autos for free by the government, Revathi said. This will enable them to begin their professional careers.

Steps for holistic development of auto drivers soon: Ramalinga
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ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ
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Reddy: Free auto driving training for women, trans
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Inclusive auto driving initiative launched to boost safe mobility
BENGALURU, DHNS: BDA Chairman N A Harris said he will hold discussions with the BMC regarding the provision of free autos by the government to those who successfully complete auto-driving training. He was speaking at the inauguration of the free auto-driving training programme for transgender persons and women.

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ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸುಲೀಕರಣ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಆಟೋ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋ ವಿತರಣೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಆಟೋ ನೀಡಲು ಚಿಂತನೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕಾರ್ಡು (BMC) ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚಿಂತನೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

20 women transgenders get free electric autos
BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy announced on Sunday that the government would extend support to women and transgender individuals in availing subsidized electric autos, with the aim to promote financial independence and sustainable mobility.

BDA to explore possibility of providing autos for free to women, transgender drivers
It is important that women and transgender persons, once trained, are provided autos for free by the government, Revathi said. This will enable them to begin their professional careers.

Steps for holistic development of auto drivers soon: Ramalinga
BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy announced on Sunday that the government would extend support to women and transgender individuals in availing subsidized electric autos, with the aim to promote financial independence and sustainable mobility.

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು, ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಆಟೋ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ಥಿರ ನಗರ ಸಂಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸೇಹಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು ಶನಿವಾರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 10 ಉಚಿತ ಇವಿ ಆಟೋಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ ಟ್ರಾನ್ಸ್‌ಜೆಂಡರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಿಸಿದರು.

Reddy: Free auto driving training for women, trans
BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy announced on Sunday that the government would extend support to women and transgender individuals in availing subsidized electric autos, with the aim to promote financial independence and sustainable mobility.

Inclusive auto driving initiative launched to boost safe mobility
BENGALURU, DHNS: BDA Chairman N A Harris said he will hold discussions with the BMC regarding the provision of free autos by the government to those who successfully complete auto-driving training. He was speaking at the inauguration of the free auto-driving training programme for transgender persons and women.

Acknowledgement

B.PAC extends its sincere appreciation to **Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister for MSME, Government of India**, and **Shri Ramalinga Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Transport, Government of Karnataka and MLA, BTM Layout**, for their steadfast encouragement and support towards advancing women's economic empowerment and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities through the STHREE DRIVES initiative.

We are grateful to **Shri Suresh Kumar, MLA - Rajajinagar; Dr. C. N. Ashwath Narayana, MLA - Malleshwaram; Shri N. A. Haris, MLA - Shanthinagar; Shri Muniraju, MLA - Dasarahalli; and Ms. Manjula Limbavali, MLA - Mahadevapura**, for their valuable support in enabling the implementation and expansion of the programme across their respective Assembly Constituencies. Their commitment has played a key role in extending the initiative's reach and impact within local communities.

A special note of gratitude is due to **CGI**, our principal CSR partner, for its continued commitment to the Women & Transgender Auto Drivers Training Programme. CGI's support has been instrumental in the successful implementation of the initiative, including sponsorship of auto-rickshaw down payments for beneficiaries. This partnership has empowered women drivers with access to sustainable livelihoods while creating meaningful and long-term social impact.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our supporting partners and donors — **United Way Bengaluru, Three Wheelers United, Lions Club Bengaluru, Ms. Chitra Talwar, Ms. Mimi Parthasarathy, Shri Srinivas Alavilli and Team, Shri Ramalinga Reddy, and Fyn Mobility** — for their trust, generosity, and unwavering support. Their contributions towards training, vehicle rental assistance, and auto-rickshaw ownership support have enabled many women to take the first step towards financial independence and self-reliance.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the **Bengaluru City Police, Bengaluru Traffic Police, and the Regional Transport Office (RTO)** for conducting awareness sessions on women's safety, road safety, traffic rules, and responsible driving practices. Their guidance has significantly strengthened the knowledge, confidence, and preparedness of our trainees.

We would also like to place on record our sincere appreciation for **Namma Sarathi Trust**, whose dedicated efforts in training delivery, participant mentoring, field-level coordination, and programme implementation have been invaluable to the success of this initiative.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the **B.CLIP Civic Leaders**, whose deep community engagement, grassroots outreach, and continuous support played a critical role in beneficiary identification, mobilization, and successful execution of the programme across Bengaluru.

We also thank the media and journalists who helped amplify the impact of STHREE DRIVES through their coverage and storytelling. Their support in bringing visibility to the initiative and sharing the inspiring journeys of our beneficiaries has played an important role in raising awareness and garnering wider community support.

Finally, we extend our deepest gratitude to all partner organizations, community leaders, volunteers, trainers, partners, and well-wishers whose collective efforts and belief in the vision of women's empowerment made this initiative possible. Their contributions have helped create pathways to sustainable livelihoods, strengthen communities, and build a more inclusive and equitable Bengaluru for all.