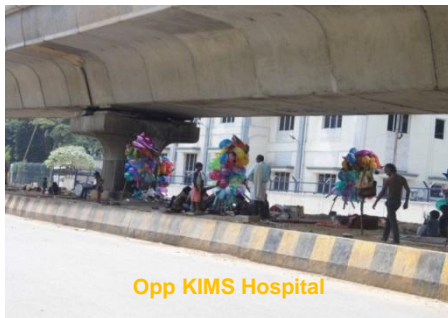


**B.PAC Case with Lokayukta : Dumping of debris and garbage on Metro Medians – Continued advocacy**



Construction debris and garbage have become ubiquitous to metro line. It plagues the bases of our metro lines like fungi growing on moist walls. They also have their own mini ecosystem, where weeds grow tall and bugs thrive. Despite being the potential health hazard along with being an eyesore to the cityscape, almost no action seems to have taken place on the ground.

In March 2015, Team B.PAC filed a complaint to the Lokayukta with nearly 700 photographs of debris and garbage that was all along the metro medians and surrounding the metro stations.

On 18th May, The BMRCL responded by saying that the debris did not belong to them, and that other parties were dumping debris beneath the lines. The Upalokayukta Justice Subhash Adi, asked the BMRCL and the BBMP to make up a plan to clean up the debris and gave the next hearing on 3rd June. B.PAC again went around the metro lines across the city on 2nd June to find that hardly any locations have been cleared of Debris. We submitted a fresh set of nearly 250 photos of debris below the metro lines, metro medians and beneath stations. On 3rd June, neither the BBMP nor the BMRCL turned up for the hearing. The BBMP sent a set of 79 photographs in an affidavit, claiming that it was construction debris and not garbage and hence not their mess to clean.

On 18 June, The BMRCL had responded with a document that claimed that they have taken steps to ensure that no more debris is dumped on the metro line. The document submitted to the Lokayukta states “We have identified some vulnerable points along the corridor,

where there is still the possibility of people dumping garbage and debris and therefore we have commenced foot patrolling through BMRCL security staff”

The BMRCL had also stated that it will fence the area of existing Metro stations under construction and are in the process of calling the tenders for it. The cost for fencing all stations under construction has been given as Rs 10 crore.



The 6<sup>th</sup> Lokayukta hearing was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November after B.PAC filed a complaint against garbage and C&D waste being dumped at the medians and stations of Namma metro. B.PAC visited the spots on 4<sup>th</sup> November to inspect the state of the medians. We are happy to note that there is some change. In the Byapanahalli to MG road stretch we found about 80% of the area clear from debris and garbage. In some cases saplings have now been planted along these medians. B.PAC has requested that proper fencing be done to protect the same.

However, many other sections of the Metro medians remain largely unattended. We will continue to monitor and report progress along the purple and green lines of Namma Metro and we invite suggestions, participation and monitoring by citizen. Please do keep us posted about what you see with the exact location details.

**Upa Lokayukta Mr. Subash Adi has appreciated the efforts of B.PAC and suggested a joint inspection by him alongwith BBMP, BMRCL, B.PAC to some vulnerable spots. Next hearing is posted for Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 2016.**