

Launch of Civic Hub & Progress Update

Greetings and a Happy Ugadi to all,

As the city revels in festive fervor, we are pleased to update you on our latest initiatives and activities. B.PAC has, over the last two years trained over 100 passionate citizens in two batches under its B.PAC Civic Leadership Program (B.CLIP). It has now chosen ten B.CLIP participants to lead Civic Hubs. The participants were chosen based on the following criteria:

- Participants who are actively engaged with the political system & working on civic and / or community issues in the ward
- Continue to have connect with citizens in the ward
- Demonstrated execution capabilities at grass root level
- Working closely with B.PAC & B. CLIP programs

Civic hub seeks to further the grassroots leadership capabilities of the B.CLIP participants and strengthen the engagement with the citizens in their wards through meaningful interventions and innovative solutions to civic issues . The program will also help the citizens to have easy access to government schemes, voter registration assistance, environmental initiatives etc. Seven such civic hubs have already been set up across the city and three more will be set up soon. All our civic leaders are actively working on various issues in their respective wards with great enthusiasm to bring about a positive change in their neighbourhoods and the city.

Subbaiah T. S & Geetha G in Radhakrishna temple ward &

Sanjaynagar respectively, Hebbal Constituency.



Geetha G with Ms. Revathy Ashok during the Civic Hub office launch in Sanjaynagar ward



Subbaiah during Civic Hub office inauguration with other B.CLIP participants

Subbiah T.S & Geetha. G are working together on neighboring wards - Sanjaynagar and Radhakrishna temple with a motto of social change. The initiatives are focused to make their wards clean, green and livable. The initiatives taken are

- Waste segregation campaigns,
- Plastic free Sanjaynagar
- Composting workshops & demonstration of leaf composting in the civic hub garden space
- A first of its kind manned kiosk was set up with the guidance of Slid Waste Management Round Table (SWMRT) expert Mr. N.S Ramakanth. Manned Kiosks helps in avoiding collection of mixed waste, maintenance of transfer points and educates people on segregation.
- Candidate's meet citizen during Hebbal by poll elections.

As part of the winning team of Neighbourhood Improvement Program challenge, their comprehensive mobility plan for Sanjaynagar won amidst stiff competition from over 100 entries. Since behavioral change among citizens is necessary to effectively implement their mobility plan, Subhiah & Geetha are organizing Cycle Day and Walk to School programs. The last cycle day organized by them witnessed the participation of newly elected MLA. Around 1500 students from 7 schools in the neighbourhood walk to school every Saturday and the initiative has been greatly appreciated by parents.



Mr. Narayanaswamy, MLA Hebbal constituency in Sanjaynagar Cycle Day

12 civic groups win grants to shape their locality the way they want

BENGALURU, DHNS: Twelve civic organisations and community associations in the City, who have won the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan (NIP) Challenge, will soon be implementing their own plans to ensure a sustainable local development in collaboration with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Said to be first of its kind in India, the NIP challenge is a competition among civic groups to come out with last-mile solutions to improve their neighbourhood. On Saturday, associations whose ideas have been accepted will be given a cash reward between Rs 3 and 15 lakh to go ahead with their NIP.

Under the NIP challenge that began in May, each of the 86 participating member associations had to first identify problems in their areas and then come out with solutions to address them. Participants included Residents' Welfare Associations, apartment associations, gated communities, community-based organisations

like Rotary and Lions and NGOs working with underprivileged groups. The participants were asked to work their projects to improve mobility with a focus on public safety, revamping public spaces, off-the-grid initiatives (like local energy production in low-income areas), water management, environment and lake development.

The projects were independently evaluated by a group of domain experts before zoning in on ten plans to execute based on their robustness, sustainability, project cost and the time required to complete. Structured and run by civic activists V Ravichandrar, Ashwin Mahesh and Kalpana Kac, the NIP challenge is an initiative of the United Technologies Corporation as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Citizens for City (C4C).

"The idea was to use these projects as a demonstration and leverage development of similar nature in other neighbourhoods of the City in the coming days," Ravichandrar said, explaining the concept.

C4C-NIP award grantees

Innovation

- Inclusive Integrated Energy Centres: Seko Foundation

Technology

- Streetlighting with Sensor-based LED Lighting: Sri Sri Paradise and Other 3rd Main, New Thippasandra Residents, and RISE, HAL 3rd Stage

Methodology

- Lining of Major U-Turns: FORCE Brokefields

Mobility

- Comprehensive Transport Plan: Citizens for Sustainability (CFS)

Public Safety

- Creating Safe Neighbourhood Improvement Trust: Sundarapalya Neighbourhood Improvement Trust

Waste Management

- Wet Waste Composting and Permaculture: RISE, HAL III Stage RWA

Scalable Proof of Concept

- Smart Transfer Points: Transforming an Environmental Hotspot: The Defence Colony Link Road by DECORA

Legible City

- Navigation Maps and Signboards: Indiranagar 2nd Stage League

Decentralised Sewage Management

- Using Zero-Electricity STPs to Cleanse Polluted Stormwater Drain: FORCE Brokefields

Enhancing Cycling Culture

- Multiple Cycle parking facilities in HSR Layout: Somadrapalya Neighbourhood Improvement Trust

Universal Accessibility

- Angavak Aluru Anandam Disabled Delight: The Karnataka Welfare Association for the Blind

Kiosk may end garbage crisis

Sanjaynagar residents hope the waste booth initiated along with Vidya Sagar school and operated by pourkarmikas will serve as pilot for the city struggling to effectively dispose of its trash

Waste disposal has been a long-standing problem in Sanjaynagar. Residents have been struggling to find a solution to the garbage crisis. A group of residents, led by Subhiah and Geetha, have initiated a waste booth along with Vidya Sagar school, operated by pourkarmikas. This initiative is expected to serve as a pilot for the city, which is struggling to effectively dispose of its trash.

The group, which is a sustainable movement, has been working on the issue for a long time. They have been collecting waste from the school and the surrounding area. The waste is then taken to the waste booth, where it is sorted and disposed of. This initiative is expected to serve as a pilot for the city, which is struggling to effectively dispose of its trash.

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Jayalakshmi, Mahalakshmi, Mahalakshmi layout Assembly Constituency

Jayalakshmi has set her office in Mahalakshmi, Mahalakshmi layout ward. Mr. Gopalaih, MLA, Mahalakshmi layout ward and Mrs. Hemalatha Gopalaih, Deputy Mayor inaugurated the civic hub office. They appreciated the efforts of B.PAC and extended their support to civic hub. Since Jayalakshmi's ward has low income families, her focus is on helping urban poor with various government schemes such as

- Under National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) project, two self-help groups
- Insurance under Mahathma Gandhi Bunkar Bheema Yojana, Driver's program etc.
- Permissions to issue Yashaswini card (Health insurance) across the city.

She has also submitted a proposal for a pure drinking water plant for her ward. She has cleared a blackspot in a prime location of her ward and has installed CCTV cameras to ensure the blackspot doesn't reoccur. She also conducted Diabetes awareness program and a women's day program for women of various self-help group of her constituency.



Mr. Gopaliah, MLA Mahalakshmi layout ward and Mrs Hemalatha, Deputy Mayor inaugurating Civic Hub.

Eswarappa, Sriramamandira ward, Rajajinagar Constituency



Eswarappa during inauguration of Civic Hub

H. Eswarappa has set up office in Sriramamandira ward. Deepa Nagesh, Corporator of Sriramamandira ward inaugurated his office space. He is a known activist in trying to make Bengaluru free of illegal hoardings and has made his ward free of such hoardings. Further, he wants to beautify his ward with art work on public walls. He has brought to the notice of BESCOM, areas where electrical safety is required. He has filed complaints to fix street lights and to put fence around poles. He is also extensively promoting the B.PAC Spotter app and filing complaints on the app.

Kavitha Reddy, HSR Layout, Bommanahalli zone



Kavitha Reddy during the #killbill campaign

Kavitha Reddy has set up civic hub with an objective to make her office a doer's den. She has brought together residents of HSR layout by starting Hasiru Mithra – a volunteers group. She is actively working on waste management and lake rejuvenation. Since she has led the waste management initiative, HSR is now visibly cleaner locality.

- SWM
 - *Visible cleaner locality*
 - *Maintained Black-spot clearance*
 - *17 Workshops, 05 Talks, 10 Boards on waste segregation*
 - *40000 + SMS to residents, 12 Black-spot removal & Clean-up drives*
 - *10 Plastic Ban drives, 13 D2D Segregation drives*
 - *02 #KillBills Campaign*
- Parks
 - *All Parks cleared of dry leaves*

○ Better Park Administration

We congratulate Kavitha Reddy, as her efforts to rejuvenate Agara lake has triumphed. The funds for rejuvenation of lake has been released and the project is on track. She, along with other residents are working on rejuvenation of Somasundarapaly lake. The DPR is in progress and MLA has assured to release the funds to revive the lake.



Media coverage for initiatives by Kavitha Reddy in HSR Layout

Mohd. Sufiyan, Sampangiramnagar ward, Shivajinagar Constituency

Sufiyan has set up his office on Infantry road, Sampangiramnagar ward. Mr. Roshan Baig, MLA Shivajinagar inaugurated the office. Along with awareness drives of segregation, plastic ban drives, composting workshops, Sufiyan has been successful in stopping illegal dumping of garbage by apartment owners. His ward has a kindergarten for children of daily wage workers. The kindergarten did not have water connection and caused trouble to little kids and

teachers. Sufiyan was successful in reaching out to BWSSB and getting necessary water connection to the school.



Sufiyan with teachers of the kindergarten in Samangiramnagar ward

Residents take illegally dumped garbage to source, confront staff

VIJETHA S.N.

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Activists found evidence that the waste had originated from a particular building.

Bangalore Political Action Committee and the Active Residents Welfare Association caught staff of a commercial building on Infantry Road illegally dumping garbage on the streets.

"The garbage contractor would pick up waste from nearby commercial buildings and dump it on the Infantry Road junction, turning it into a black spot posing health hazards to residents," said Mohammed Sufiyan from B.PAC. He, along with Sudarshan from the Active Residents Welfare Association, a BEMP supervisor and a health inspector, caught the perpetrators red-handed on Monday evening.

After the waste bags were dumped at the junction, Sufiyan and his team opened them.

Most of the dry waste was from a particular commercial complex. They loaded the garbage on a BEMP truck and drove it to the building.

The maintenance manager stated that they have outsourced waste disposal to a private contractor.

The citizens showed evidence that the waste originated in that building. The manager accepted and allowed the waste to be kept within the building's premises.

Ashok Nidgil, Jayanagar East, Jayanagar Constituency



Ashok Nidgil is working on Jayanagar east ward. Each ward has unique issues. The root cause of blackspots in Jayanagar east ward was dumping of waste by vegetable push carts and vendors. The push carts were cause of traffic congestion and lack of parking space in the area as well. He has left no stone unturned to solve the issue. He filed RTI and found out that the vegetable vendors were issued space in vegetable market. But, they had sub-let the space to other vendors and were illegally occupying space on streets. He

brought this to the notice of MLA, officials of BBMP, Traffic police and also filed a writ petition. Now, he has been successful in eliminating the black spot in the prime location and decongest the traffic flow. This has helped him gain support of citizens of his ward. He has also filed an RTI on ongoing infrastructure work in his ward and is monitoring the same.



The civic hub members met on 31st of March, 2016 and exchanged their ideas and shared their learning.

We are enthralled by their work and look forward to more in coming days!
If you would like to get in touch with our Civic Leaders kindly write to us at kishore@bpac.in or sushma@bpac.in

Our B.CLIP batch 4 admissions are now open. Please write to us at rajatha@bpac.in or bclip@bpac.in for more details.