



Dear friends,

B.PAC started the year 2017 on a high note by conducting Graduation Ceremony for its 122 B.CLIP leaders in presence of Former Prime Minister of India, Sri. Deve Gowda. Now, as we head towards the second half of the year 2017, we are extremely proud to see the gamut of programs conceptualized, executed and sustained by our B.CLIP leaders across Bengaluru city.

Under our participatory democracy program (PDP), along with active engagement with BBMP corporators, we have kick started an important conversation on participation of women in politics. We have drafted an agenda and a program to address the gender gap in politics and civic space. Our ongoing activities with waste management, women and child safety are forging newer partnerships. We are working with multiple partners to have a focused efforts in select areas to make strides towards mobility, lake rejuvenation, public safety and environment. Our B.CLIP leaders launched the initiative, Bengaluru Water Warriors and have conducted awareness campaigns across 10 wards in Bengaluru City in the last two months. Our fourth Batch of B.CLIP have completed class room sessions and with this we would have trained 170 passionate citizens who are slowly but steadily effecting positive change across the city.

We are an year away from Karnataka elections. It is important for citizens to not just be aware of activities but also engage with elected representatives and political parties. In the past four years, we have made significant progress in this area and have geared up to bridge the gap between citizens and elected representatives and contesting candidates in the coming election year of 2017-2018. Being registered and choosing the right leader to represent us is crucial

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty!

Best Wishes

Revathy Ashok

CEO & Managing Trustee

B.PAC

Participatory Democracy Program

B.PAC celebrates International Women's Political Empowerment Day!

B.PAC hosted 'Women's Political Empowerment Day' - a program for upcoming women leaders to celebrate and interact with senior leaders and fellow contemporaries. **Smt. Padmavathi, Worshipful Mayor, BBMP; Smt. Bharathi Shankar, Chairperson, Karnataka State Women Development Corporation; Smt. Tabu Rao, Indian National Congress; Smt. Shantala Damle, Aam Admi Party were present at the program.**

Politics is no longer an arena that is open only to men and this is showcased in Bengaluru's recent election of 52% of women in its BBMP council. However, women still continue to suffer from several obstacles in the way of attaining a career in politics. There are several structural, educational and societal barriers which continue marginalizing women in the political sphere, both in electing and being elected. Although there are several individual successes, the overall situation remains bleak, which lead to **India being ranked 148 out of 194 in a survey of Women Participation in Politics conducted by the UN.**

To address this, B.PAC organized an unique interactive program wherein senior political leaders candidly answered the questions asked by upcoming political leaders. Further, the senior leaders participated in a focus group discussion to list down the challenges faced by women leaders and discussed solutions to overcome the challenges.

Smt. Padmavathi urged women to work hard and reiterated the importance of reservation in politics. Mrs. Bharathi Shankar felt that when women today enter the political space with specific set of goals and are certain about political aspirations than previously.

- Reservation for women in assembly elections
- Exclusive women candidate endorsements
- Role of media: Cover exclusive stories on positive initiatives by women leaders and women elected representatives
- Encourage civic and political participation at young age. Set up civic and political engagement clubs for young school and college students.
- Impact study of women leader's initiatives to change the narrative on women's leaders capability to deliver good governance.
- Upcoming leaders to spend a day with senior women leaders.



Call for action:

B.PAC's flagship initiative B.CLIP continues to create an arena where women can freely enter the political realm with maximum support. If you are a woman or know anyone who can contribute to constructive civic and political engagement, please do recommend them for B.CLIP program.



The classroom sessions for B.CLIP batch 4 has been concluded. Following which, B.PAC has had a series of contact sessions by experts on pressing issues of Bengaluru city. The sessions have helped B.CLIP participants curate innovative projects to address the gaps in their respective wards.

Below are the contact sessions conducted:

- **"Project management"** by **Parthasarathy**, CTO B.PAC.
- **"Reading Behind the Numbers"** by **Mr. Kenny Ramanand**, Founder Springboard Public Relationship.
- **My experiences from the B.CLIP program and how I am able to engage with my community** by **Mrs. Kavitha Reddy**, B.CLIP-2 Graduate.
- **My takeaway from the B.CLIP Program** by **Mr. Manjesh. J.C**, B.CLIP-1 Graduate
- **Working for Safety and Empowerment of women at ward level** by **Kalpana Tattvarti**, Founder Parity Consulting
- **"Water and City"** by **Mr. M. N. Thippe Swamy**, Retired Chief Engineer of BWSSB
- **"Public speaking skills"** by **Prof. G.B .Raju**, Advocate and Political Adviser
- **'Multi modal Transportation system for Bengaluru City'** by **Sudeept Maiti**, Senior Project Associate - Urban Development & Accessibility and **Chaitanya Kanuri**, Research Analyst, WRI India Sustainable Cities
- **"Culture and the City"** by **Prakash Belawadi**, Renowned artist and Activist.

We have concluded the first round of interview for B.CLIP batch 5. Our panelists included civic experts, B.CLIP leaders, elected representatives and B.PAC members.

For B.CLIP applications, [click here](#).



Safety workshops for women across Bengaluru city

We have been ardently working to create safe spaces for women and children. Below is our goal under 'A Billion Eyes' programme:

Women Safety:

1. Safety workshops to women from low-income groups on safety across Bengaluru city.
2. Select a few women among the ones who undergo safety workshop and make facilities for them to be trained as paralegal. This would help to reach out to a greater number of women in their community and help raise a louder voice when faced with discrimination and harassment.



- These workshops are led by our B.CLIP leaders across Bengaluru city
- We have conducted 12 such workshops since November 2016 and 513 women have been benefited from these workshops.

Safe Work Place

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B.SAFE has been working for implementation of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act. As part of the act, the Government has to set up Local Complaints Committee to address sexual harassment in informal sector. Bengaluru city now has a dedicated Local Complaints Committee

Few must know facts about LCC

- Any woman working in either formal or informal sector can file complaints at LCC. The LCC shall exercise powers and discharge functions under this Act.
- Geetha Patil, Assistant Director, Department of Women and Child Development, Karnataka is the Secretary of Bengaluru's LCC.
- Complaints must be submitted to Geetha Patil. To submit complaints, one must visit the Department of Women and Child Office next to Kidwai, near Dairy Circle, Bengaluru.

Safe Public Place

B.PAC has collaborated with Safetipin to work towards safe public places. Safetipin shall prepare safety report for select wards and assembly constituencies considering safety parameters such as lighting, eyes on street, openness etc.

B.PAC along with B.CLIP leaders shall be working with elected representatives to improve the safety score of the select areas.

[Click here](#) for Koramanagala report



Swachata Leadership Program

- B.PAC is working on first of its kind Certification Program for efficient waste management and water conservation in tech parks and other bulk waste generators. It has already developed an assessment framework to aid the certification in partnership with Underwriters' laboratories, DQS and Saahas.

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make their campus improve their wet, dry and garden waste management process and achieve zero waste status.

- We have completed audits in five campuses and have given list of recommendations to the participating companies. **The participating companies/Campuses are Texas Instruments, Sasken, Biocon, Tesco and Embassy Golf Links.**
- The waste audit team included Mr Ramanathan from DQS (German based audit company), Ms Wilma Rodrigues (Founder, Saahas - a waste management company), Mr. N.S Ramakanth, SWM Expert and Sushma Mahabala, Program Coordinator, B.PAC

Composting Santhe across Bengaluru City

- B.PAC and B.CLIP leaders have been supporting BBMP to host Composting Santhe across Bengaluru.
- Over 10 Composting Santes have been organized by BBMP
- The program is supported by the Mayor and elected representatives across political parties



Media Coverage

B.CLIP Leader's initiative Bengaluru Water Warriors in association with BWSSB and B.PAC organized the first Jala Utsava across Bengaluru city. Around 10 programs have been led by B.CLIP leaders since last two months. The program is supported by elected representatives and BWSSB officials.

The following activities were carried out during Jala Utsava

- Demo vehicle and assistance by experts to adopt Rain Water Harvesting in houses.
- Interaction with the BWSSB engineers and solutions for citizens' queries.
- Learn simple mechanisms for saving water.
- Launch of Young Bengaluru Water Warrior program to encourage children to save water.
- Awareness by street play



The program was launched on 25th March, 2017 in Kanteerva Stadium, Bengaluru in presence of Mr. Kemparamiah, Chief Engineer BWSSB; Smt. G Padmavathi Mayor, BBMP, Mr Manjunath Prasad Commissioner, BBMP, Mr. Rajeev Gowda, M.P Rajya Sabha; Mr. PC Mohan, M.P Bengaluru Central; Mr. N. A Haris, MLA Shantinagar, Mr. Syed Kirmani, renowned cricketer; Ms. Revathy Ashok, CEO & Managing Trustee, B.PAC , Mr. Ananda Gundurao, Member B.PAC and other eminent citizens.

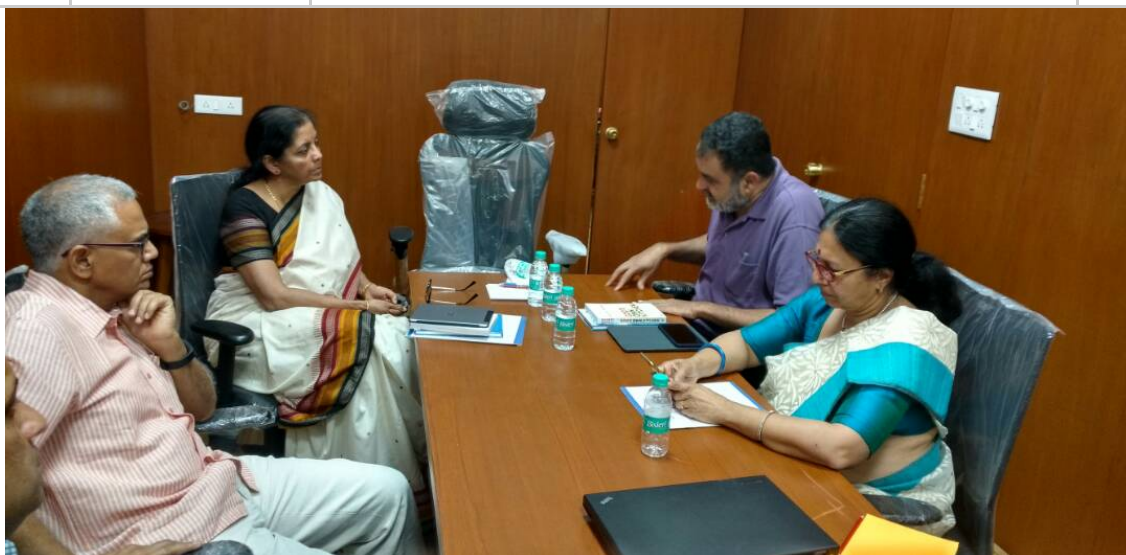




Revival of Kalena Agrahara lake from MPLAD funds

- Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, CIM, GoI and MP(RS) has taken up Kalena Agrahara lake rejuvenation and publicly announced B.PAC's support for the project.
- INR 2.5 Crs committed by Union Minister for the project.
- B.PAC team provided the necessary data analysis for selection for lake rejuvenation and B.PAC was invited to give inputs during the review meeting of honorable minister with state officials.
- Officials have prepared an action plan to complete the project by March 2018.
- B.PAC team made introductions to community representatives around the lake to actively participate in the revival process.





Sneak peak at B.PAC's activities

Along with our ongoing programs, below are the three new initiatives that will be launched in June 2017. To volunteer for any of the programs, please write to forbangalore@gmail.com

Tree Plantation Drive:

B.CLIP leaders are setting the ground for sustainable tree plantation drive in their wards and assembly constituency. BBMP has made the process of sapling collection and monitoring simpler by launch of BBMP Green App.

Android users can download the app by [clicking here](#).

B.SAFE initiative for safety at schools:

B.PAC along with the Australian Consulate and the United Way of Bengaluru in partnership with Enfold Proactive Health Trust is rolling out a series of programs on implementation of Karnataka State Child Protection Policy (KSCPP) in schools at the assembly constituency level. This program will help identify gaps in schools, capacity building of teachers, safety workshops for students and implementation of preventive and redressal mechanisms at schools. The program will be a good opportunity for school management, teachers, proactive citizens to understand the nuances of child safety related policies and law and get an insight into implementation of the same. With the reopening of schools, we consider this to be the right time for the schools and other stakeholders to be made aware of this policy and do their bit to ensure safety of children.

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The “One million New Votes campaign” is a B.PAC initiative to make elections a truly democratic process by giving every Bengalurean a voice. The best way to build a better city is for all citizens to make their voice heard through voting in all civic/other elections. And the MLA elections are just around the corner.

As you are aware, around 1.5 lakh students study in around 400 colleges across Bengaluru city. Unfortunately, a mere 10,000 students have voter ID. A large number of students fail to get their voter IDs because of lack of awareness and assistance. We want to impress upon the students that their votes do count. B.PAC is aiming to create this awareness through its **“One Million New Votes Campaign”**.

In this campaign, we propose to bring young voters into the eligibility list through registration with the Election Commission. Prospective voters, young and having just crossed the age of eighteen, will be registered at the time of their admission at colleges.

If any of our leaders are interested in taking up this activity, please write in to us at forbangalore@bpac.in

Thank you!



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