

CITIZENS' MANIFESTO FOR

BENGALURU



Foreword

Year 2023

'NAMMA BENGALURU', capital of Karnataka State, labelled as one of the fastest growing cities globally, has become critical to the economic prosperity of both the State and the Country. This growth has resulted in attracting talent from far corners of the country and internationally. The broad based population of the city has rendered a cosmopolitan nature, making it known internationally.

The fast-paced growth of the City has brought in its share of problems as well. The demand for civic services such as mobility, power, roads, water, environment and the like has outpaced the carrying capacities of the current infrastructure. There is a constant need to revise our assumptions about such facilities and a change in approach to being pro-active as well.

Karnataka is on the threshold of elections, to decide on the next political formation that will run its affairs during five years (2023-2027). It is time for all political parties to step back and visualize what needs to be done in the future. Such thoughts are normally incorporated in the 'Manifesto' that every political party comes out prior to elections, informing the citizens of its vision for the State and the City.

In view of this, B.PAC, has engaged with citizens & experts for several months to identify Bengaluru issues that matter to them. The first step was to identify the top five high impact areas the Government should act. **Through a Citizen Perception Survey**, five areas were identified as: **City Governance, Mobility, Solid Waste Management, Water & Sanitation and Women & Child Safety.**

B.PAC, later, held a series of focussed group discussion with experts in each of these identified subjects. The outcome of these discussions have been documented and enclosed. They are in the nature of Macro recommendations for providing for the long term needs of the City. We earnestly request you to include these recommendations in your Party Manifesto, as it would become a basis for action later.

B.PAC, through these efforts, has worked towards bringing people closer to the governance issues through a participatory process. Your effort to incorporate the recommendations in your Manifestos would amount to recognition of people's aspirations and encourage them to get closer and engage in more meaningful dialogue with the political system. Such strengthening of democratic process would augur well for the future.

The upcoming state elections in Karnataka is being keenly watched both at national and international levels. Political systems responding positively to people's aspirations, will not only create competitive politics for improvement of the City but also set benchmarks for the rest of the Country, reinforcing the primacy of Bengaluru on matters of progress. Namma Bengaluru, growing inclusively and sustainably, will be a matter of pride for us and the generations to come

Thank You

Revathy Ashok | Hon Managing Trustee & CEO | B.PAC



Governance

1. City Governance

- **Conducting Elections to BBMP immediately, having 243 ward corporators, Dy Mayor and Mayor**
- **Institutional reforms** - In lines to how ECI ensures elections are conducted to State Assembly and Lok Sabha and a new office term is placed, **State Election commission (SEC) to be empowered to conduct elections to BBMP and other urban and rural local bodies**
- Moving the powers from state govt to **State Election commission(SEC)** to complete election process and state govt should not have any role in **conducting elections for local bodies**
- **Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission – 2** in its [third report \(https://bit.ly/3TO6EtH\)](https://bit.ly/3TO6EtH) has highlighted **recommendations to UDD, BBMP, BDA, BMRDA, BWSSB (page 119 – 179) and Special Report – Reforming and Reorganizing BBMP 2023 (https://bit.ly/3TM1uOU). These recommendations are result of Commission meetings with selected departmental officers and officials drawn from various levels, from the frontline to the head office, representing all four regions of the state and undertaking field visits. **Political parties should work towards enforcing the said recommendations into actions in the 16th Assembly (2023-2027).****
- **Increasing the proportion of BBMP's own staff vis a vis Deputation staff.** The current BBMP staff composition is as follows:
 - **Revenue Department (21% staff)**- Creation of an 'Enforcement Cell' to boost property tax assessment and collection.
 - **Engineering Department (41% staff)** - There is an urgent need to strengthen the Ward level engineering staff to handle citizen complaints like potholes, footpaths, ward drains, ward roads etc.
 - **Public Health Department (16.9%)** - Recommended that there may be one JHI per ward and one SHI for every 2 wards.
 - **Legal Cell (7.3%)** - Zonal Legal Cell For BBMP, in the initial phases, it is recommended that there be a Zonal Legal Cell (ZLC) in every zonal office.
- **Recruit additional people to fill up vacant** positions in the **current sanctioned strengths** across departments. | **A cadre of directly recruited municipal subject matter specialists in waste management, Public Health, urban planning, lake rejuvenation etc** on the lines of **KAS Group A officers to be created in BBMP**
- Undertake **linking of property owner's photograph to Khata** for all **properties in BBMP 243 wards**. This will bring in greater transparency in property ownership
- Merging BDA and BMRDA, **BMRDA Act is done by amending the BDA Act**, the merged body would possess the strengths of both BDA and BMRDA. strengthening BMRDA to take up both development and planning functions in the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region (BMR).

2. Mobility and Infrastructure



Mobility &
Infrastructure

Governance:

- **Seed fund of Rs.100 crores** for the formation of **Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA)**. BMLTA Act to Authority within 100 days. BMLTA to be **staffed with persons with technical and planning expertise in comprehensive sustainable mobility**. BMLTA to be the authority to make a commuter-centric, multimodal mobility plan with a clearly outlined budget for each mode of mass transport and coordinate execution.
- To **enhance mass transport for the city** from the current **48% of commuters to 80% by 2028**.
- Future **transport infrastructure project to have three to five public consultations**, in an appropriate format based on the size and scale of the project.

- **Appoint mobility experts in the areas of urban planning, transportation planning, transportation economics, optimization and analytics specialists as members** to the BMLTA authority and recruit specialists with similar expertise to BMLTA for professional functioning.
- It is pertinent that **aggregators be allowed to legally aggregate** shared cabs, shared autos and bike pool within the **existing contract carriage permit**. This would encourage **shared mobility and innovative mobility solutions**. For example: sharing cabs and auto rickshaws should be allowed with the consent of the passengers

Road and Infrastructure:

- **Uniform design specifications** for residential roads of 20 * 40 feet wide prepared by experts.
- Publish **inspection reports of all road development/improvement** projects undertaken

Public Transport:

- Government to **declare and commit to increase the modal share of public transport from 48% to 80% by 2027** with a **clear road map of implementation**.
- **Mass rapid transport** to be made **accessible, affordable, available and attractive** to different cohorts
- Physical Integration: **Parking facilities to FMLM options in all metro stations**
- Service Integration: To extend **feeder bus systems and e-rickshaws** to all the **metro stations in the city**.
- **Implement National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC)** for BMTC and Namma Metro
- Add **Bengaluru Cess to all newly purchased personal vehicles**. This Cess to be utilized **for improving sustainable transport, including public transport, walking and cycling**.

BMTC:

- Enhance the current **fleet of 6,673 buses to 16,000 buses by 2028**.
- **Service** provision has to be **commuter centric**. Appropriate segmentation of market by commuters at different price points and service expectations, driven by technology that provides accurate information, payments and seamless integration with other modes
- Use **appropriate size buses depending on demand, road condition and geometry**
- **Feeder buses from interior areas** to be prioritized to **connect to main bus routes**
- BMTC to annually **change 20% of its fleet to Electric Vehicles (EV)**. All buses to be **electric by 2030**
- Provision of **priority lanes for BMTC buses across 12 High Traffic Density Corridors** in Bengaluru
- **Frequency of buses** to be **increased** substantially to increase the carrying capacity of the bus lane

BMRCL:

- Initiate construction of **1000 km of Namma metro in Bengaluru by 2030**

Suburban Rail:

- Target to **complete four corridors of 148 km of suburban rail in 5 years**. Ensure the work on all **4 suburban railway corridors commences immediately**. Currently negligible progress after 1 year of announcement.
- Use **existing railway infrastructure** for faster outcomes
 - i) Increase **frequency and reliability for airport rail** connectivity.
 - ii) Just 4 MEMUs running up and down 3 existing corridors (1. City to YNK via YPR 2. City to YNK via BYPL/KJM and 3. YNK to CBP via Airport/Devanahalli). These can be implemented very **quickly to provide local commute option**

Auto Rickshaw

- All **autos to be electric** by 2030
- **Incentivize purchase of electric auto** and retrofitting to existing auto
- **Grant 50,000 permits** to electric autos in the city

Last Mile Connectivity

- **Commit that no citizen should have to walk more than 500m** to get to a **public transport in the city**
- **Last mile connectivity** options such as **cycles, e-bikes, shared autos to be made available from public transport hubs** to the nearest high concentration areas such as tech parks, markets, malls, offices and educational institutions

Pedestrian safety

- **1500 Kms of walkable and accessible footpaths** and safe pedestrian crossings across Bengaluru and also **around 1 Km radius of all metro/bus/train stations**
- **Inclusive road plan** with **dedicated hawker zones**

E-transport, parking and others

- Identify and designate streets to be **'No Parking' and 'Paid Parking'** and **enforce strict parking rules**
- Introduce **dedicated park and pickup zones** in arterial and sub-arterial roads for shared mobility/radio taxis & autos providers/users
- Implement **electric vehicle parking regulation**, exempt parking fees for EV & provide designated parking
- Announce **annual EV Targets for Bengaluru City** (short, mid and long term targets)
- Set up **Bengaluru EV Dashboard** to report progress
- Creation of low-emission zones
- **Commit that all government vehicles** in Bengaluru will be **EV only** by 2028
- Make **80% of city government office parking** spaces EV ready by 2028
- Integrate **electric mobility planning into the city's development plan**
- Providing **property tax rebates to residential owners** who install their own private charging stations
- **Incentivise electric first- and last-mile connectivity** and **delivery services**

3. Water, Wastewater & Sanitation

Institutional reforms & Governance

- **Commit to all citizens of Bengaluru - Right to clean drinking water access by 2028.**
- **All sources of water** such as Surface water, Ground water, Wastewater, Storm water, lakes and water bodies has to be integrated and **managed by one authority in the lines of BMLTA** in order to manage demand and supply of water **for Bangalore city in a sustainable manner.**
- This single authority to be **instituted with the responsibility for planning, execution and maintenance of water supply for drinking, industrial usage, construction and other secondary and tertiary uses** and monitoring ground water recharge and extraction in the BMR region.
- This authority to have a **board comprising of subject matter experts, elected representatives and members from civic authorities.**
- Institute a **regulatory authority to monitor the functioning** of the above body in terms of performance and pricing.
- Declare **Bengaluru as a water sensitive city** and **encourage citizens to use water judiciously**
- **Unauthorized and/or unregistered** borewells need to be **identified and closed** with appropriate penalties.

Supply

- **Equitable water distribution** to all citizens. Provide 90 LPCD at affordable prices to all citizens. Free water should be supplied only to BPL card holders.
- Leverage local water sources such as **rainwater, lakes and recycled water.**
- **Stormwater management** should be given **highest priority** for alternate source of water.
- Make it mandatory that **BDA/BBMP parks and all institutions (government and Private) green spaces will use only recycled water for gardening/landscaping**



Distribution losses

- Commit to reduction of 20% of **non-revenue water (NRW) by 2028**.
- As per BWSSB latest reports **present non-revenue water (NRW) is 30%**. This percentage of **NRW should be brought down to less than 10%** in order to extend water supply to new areas. The losses are approximately 290 million litres of water every day.
- Using GIS, the entire **distribution of water supply to the city should be automated** using all digitization of the assets.
- Reduce **water losses in transmission and distribution from 29% to 5% by 2030**
- BWSSB needs to publish the **percentage of Unaccounted Water (UAW) each month**. The Board needs to develop detailed timetable for reducing its UFW percentages with **annual and decadal targets**.

Water conservation

- Commit to **reduction in water consumption by 15%** through implementation of **water conservation initiatives** in **government offices, households and commercial buildings** by mandating use of **efficient plumbing fixtures**.
- Enforce **100% implementation** of **Rainwater harvesting in Govt offices, commercial establishments, residential buildings** across Bengaluru city.
- Provide **water efficient taps and fixtures etc** to citizens at **subsidized costs to encourage water conservation**.
- Bring **regulatory norms for selling of water efficient fixtures**
- **Potable water** demand is only **40% of the total water demand**. Commit that rest **60% of the demand will be drawn only from treated wastewater**.

Wastewater treatment (sewage)

- Sewage to be viewed as resource, **Outreach programs for citizens** to educate on **use of greywater**
- Segregate pricing of supply water and sewage water, Incentivise sewage treatment by net metering
- Set up **underground sewage treatment plants in parks and playgrounds**
- **Dual pipeline supply system for Potable and Non-Potable consumption** needs to be made compulsory in all high rise buildings
- Identify where there is a great **demand for industrial, commercial, non- potable water demand and establish a treatment plant** based on the demand through sewer mining. Thus, burden on fresh water will be reduced
- **Mandate to use only treated water for construction purpose**

Rainwater Harvesting

- RWH to be **made mandatory for all new buildings irrespective** of the size of roof top area
- All **new connections need to be provided** only after **installation of RWH systems**
- Use **On-line platforms** to obtain approval of building plans
- Use GIS platforms to identify **households with inactive RWH systems**
- Establish a **clear framework outlining** the builder's obligation, standards on the quality of water used to recharge borewells
- Overall, **RWH needs to gain further momentum** owing to a policy drive, active awareness, and media campaign

4. Energy



Energy

- **Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission – 2** in its [third report](https://bit.ly/3TO6EtH) (<https://bit.ly/3TO6EtH>) has highlighted **recommendations to Energy Department, ESCOMs, Electrical Inspectorate, Page 183-200**. These recommendations are result of Commission meetings with selected departmental officers and officials drawn from various levels, from the frontline to the head office, representing all four

regions of the state and undertaking field visits. **Political parties should work towards enforcing the said recommendations into actions in the 16th Assembly (2023-2027).**

- **Efficiency** required by the **distribution and generation companies** so that the cost plus approach that they adopt is minimized and in turn their **efficiency leads to a lower tariff.**
- Commit for a **State and city energy transition plan** from **thermal power to renewable energy**
- Establishing a **unified agency for enforcing Energy Conservation Building Code for new Buildings** in city. This will promote **energy efficiency in the design and construction** of homes, apartments, and townships.
- **Enforcement of rooftop photovoltaic (RTPV) installing** in Bengaluru city to its **optimum level as measured by CSTEP CREST at ~ 1 GW**
- **Amendments in Electricity Act 2003** for establishing **electricity accidents tribunals on the lines of Motor Vehicle Accident Tribunals (MVAT)** for redressal of dispute/electricity compensation to the accident victims. **State amendment** must be brought about to ensure that even the **consumer disputes get resolved at the Electricity Regulatory Commission level.**
- **Unpaid subsidies** from the **government to ESCOMS** are **accumulated** at **INR. 3,526 Cr** and **unpaid bills** by various **government departments** are **accumulated** to **INR. 6,600 Cr** during 2022, **BESCOM trade receivables is at INR. 10,550 Cr.** The **government dues to ESCOMs** create negative impact on revenue collection and furthering the vicious cycle of not paying the power Generators who are forced to borrow to maintain operations or burden the **consumers through increase in the power tariff.** **Unpaid subsidies from the government and unpaid bills by various government departments to ESCOMs will be cleared every three months.**
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- **Power subsidy to Irrigation pump set below 10hp will be implemented with geo tagged IP sets are mapped in all ESCOMs to arrest leakage/theft of power from agriculture purpose to non-agricultural purposes.**
- **Establish office of Sustainability for Bengaluru** to draw a road map and monitor the implementation of city sustainability goals
- **Commit to Net Zero Energy by 2030** in Bengaluru and Karnataka through
 - Universal, Equitable access to energy and reliability
 - Energy efficiency and performance optimization
 - Renewable energy
 - Carbon neutral economy
 - Energy resilience
 - Energy governance and performance management - Policies and political commitments (state's policies to push for power sector decarbonisation)

5. Solid Waste Management

Governance and citizen inclusion

- Poor waste management is a **health hazard for citizens.** Articulate a **vision for responsible waste management for Bengaluru city and strict enforcement of the same.**
- Increase the **planning and monitoring capability** for waste management in the city.
- **Waste management dashboard** at ward, constituency and city level to be put up in public domain to **track monthly progress.**
- Proactively **disclose tenders and expenditure** of all waste management related projects.
- Recruit **experts/environmental engineers** to efficiently monitor waste management at ward level
- Establish **single door platform to enable Corporate companies** to adopt Dry waste collection centers and waste processing centers

Segregation and collection:

- Standard **state of the art waste collection vehicles with GPS trackers** and high-end technology to track real time movement of collection vehicles.
- Set up **scientific transfer points** wherein waste from smaller vehicle is directly loaded to the bigger vehicle.



- **Construction & debris waste** is the largest contributor to air pollution in Bengaluru City. Build **collection centers to collect construction and debris waste** at every assembly constituency/ward depending on the quantum of construction waste generated in the locality.

Waste processing

- **Decentralized waste processing units** across Bengaluru. Wet waste and garden waste generated in the ward to be processed in the Award.
- All the **processing plants set up** in Bengaluru city be **made fully functional**.
- Every **ward to have state of the art Dry Waste Collection** Centers. Provide secondary segregation staff for DWCC. Do not permit any wet waste or debris to enter dry waste center. Provide compactors to reduce the space occupied by dry waste.
- Enforce **waste segregation and responsible processing/disposal** by bulk waste generators such temples, apartments, educational institutions, hotels and tech campuses.
- **Burning of leaf waste** is a major issue across Bengaluru. **Leaf waste processing plants** should be set at ward level and measures to be taken to prevent burning of waste.
- Bengaluru generates around 92,000 tonnes of e-waste per year. Set up **collection points for e-waste and increase capacity of DWCC to collect e-waste**. Partner with e-waste processors to manage e-waste.
- Bengaluru city generates approximately 4,600 tonnes of C&D waste per day. **Set up C& D waste processing plants** to efficiently manage minimum of 5,000 tonnes per day
- Strictly enforce and ensure all **medical/sanitary waste is processed by designated vendor**.

Visual cleanliness

- **Visual cleanliness** for Bengaluru city to be a **high priority**.
- **Littering in public spaces, streets, footpaths and vacant sites** to be heavily **fined at INR 10,000** per instance.
- Strict **enforcement of plastic ban**



6. Women and Child Safety

Governance:

- A **dedicated minister for Women and Child Development** and the minister to not hold any other portfolio.
- Publish **annual report and gender disaggregated statistics** of women in workforce in Bengaluru city and state.
- Publish **outcome of Women's Empowerment Schemes**.
- Periodic **inter-department review meetings** between Home Ministry, Department of Women and Child Development, Department of Women Development Corporation, Health and Education etc. to review coordinate between agencies to track progress.
- **Annual report on progress of women** in various **Government sectors and also other sectors such as Education, Defense, Engineering, Entrepreneurship etc.**

Infrastructure:

- City measures its **safety index based on defined safety parameters** (footpath, street lights, gender mix, security etc.). **Each ward to be awarded a safety score**. Details of index and score to be put out in public domain. Targets to be set for improvement of safety scores.
- **Annual survey on perception of safety in public places** to be carried out to understand the necessary measures that need to be taken to make **public places safer for women and children**. Results to be put out in public domain.
- Ensure BBMP has a full proof **automatic system for streetlights all over the city**.
- All **bus stops** are upgraded for **lighting and passenger information system (PIS)**.
- **Spaces around schools to be made safe** for children to walk. **routes to schools** to be identified and marked along with **necessary pedestrian friendly infrastructure**.
- Pedestrian friendly and safe footpaths across Bengaluru

Workplace:

- Informal sector: As per Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, every **ward must have a Local Complaints Committee (LCC)**. Currently, Bengaluru city has one Local Complaints Committee to address sexual harassment at workplace. Set up **one LCC per constituency by 2025** and one LCC per ward by 2030.
- Formal sector: Monitor the **implementation of Sexual Harassment of Workplace Act** and publish data on level of **implementation in various sectors**.
- Display information on Sexual Harassment of Workplace Act and **contact details of Local Complaints Committee** in all **police stations and ward offices**.

Schools & Children :

- BBMP may **plan and establish ward level libraries** to cater to the **needs of children, youth, women and senior citizens by utilizing the Library Cess** collected by it.

Police, Legal & Counseling Centers :

- **Revamp and increase the capacity** of the short stay and rehabilitation centers.
- The **Karnataka Police force has 6% women**. Commit to reach **30% of women police force within 5 years**.
- Publish functioning of **fast track courts for POSCO cases**.

Economic Empowerment Opportunities :

- **Women Entrepreneurship support cells** in each constituency to help **women groups and individuals to set up small and medium scale ventures** and to explore self-employment opportunities. These centers to also help women get employment/jobs in their vicinity.

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