

B.PAC 
Let's Be Better

THE **B.PAC** TIMES

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From The **CEO's Desk**



Dear Reader,

As we reflect on the first quarter of 2024, I am delighted to present the updates and achievements of B.PAC from April to June. This period was marked by significant strides in our mission to foster a better Bengaluru.

Our flagship B.CLIP program continued to thrive. Our Capacity Building Session for NGOs provided vital strategies for effective management and greater impact. We also celebrated our B.CLIP leaders who gained eminent positions in political parties. We are excited to see their continued contributions to our city's development.

The webinar on "The Basic Grammar of Democracy: Concepts and Principles in Delimitation," was a profound exploration of the democratic processes that shape our urban landscapes. Our participation in the National Youth Conference in Jaipur helped us gain valuable insights and connections that will undoubtedly enrich our initiatives in Bengaluru.

As we commenced Phase 3 of the B.SAFE Constituency in Govindrajnagar and Vijayanagar, we aim to implement targeted safety interventions that will significantly improve the well-being of our citizens.

As part of our ongoing initiative 'IRR Street - Standstill to Active', collaborations with the BBMP and Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) are yielding promising results. Additionally, our involvement in the panel discussion on Bengaluru's water crisis fortified our resolve to advocate for sustainable water management practices.

The guest lecture at the 'Decoding Intersections' workshop provided an excellent platform to share our insights on urban mobility and safety, further establishing B.PAC as a thought leader in this domain.

Our social media campaigns on Menstrual Hygiene Day, the Draft Active Mobility Bill, urban forestry, and environmental change-makers garnered engagement and support.

As we reflect on these accomplishments, I am filled with optimism for what lies ahead. Our collective efforts are paving the way for a brighter, more inclusive Bengaluru. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team, partners, and supporters who make these achievements possible.

Together, let's continue to champion the causes that matter most, driving progress and fostering a city that we can all be proud of.

Warm Regards,

Revathy Ashok

Hon, Managing Trustee & CEO

Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC)

B.CLIP

Capacity Building Session by B.PAC

B.PAC and the BCLIP Alumni Association jointly organized a Capacity Building Session for NGOs managed by B.CLIP Civic Leaders. During the session, experts and participants explored effective NGO management strategies, sharing valuable insights, experiences, and practical tips to enhance organizational impact. The session was led by Ravi Kumar S., Managing Trustee of Full Circle and General Secretary of the B.CLIP Alumni Association.



B.CLIP Leaders Attain Party Positions

Three B.CLIP Civic Leaders have attained prestigious positions in political parties. Mr. Kiran Kumar C. was appointed as the JD-S Youth Wing President for the Yelahanka Assembly Constituency. Ms. Madhuri Subbarao was appointed as the Convener of the Intellectual Cell for the BJP in the Byatarayanapura Assembly Constituency. Mr. Thejas Kumar C. was appointed as the Chairman of the Karnataka Government Social Schemes Implementation Committee for the Basavanagudi Assembly Constituency.

As they step into their new roles, we anticipate positive changes and meaningful transformations in Bengaluru. We hope their commitment will inspire proactive change and drive progress in their constituencies. We look forward to a brighter future for the city under their leadership.

B.ENGAGED

A Webinar Discussion on Delimitation

B.PAC hosted a [webinar](#) titled "The Basic Grammar of Democracy: Concepts and Principles in Delimitation," featuring Mr. Lalit Panda, Senior Resident Fellow at the Vidhi Center for Legal Policy. This dialogue explored the fundamental aspects of democratic processes and the critical principles guiding the delimitation of ward boundaries within Indian cities. The session aimed to shed light on the essential principles of delimitation, particularly in the context of the upcoming delimitation of constituencies for the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, which will be based on the first Census after 2026.

Urban Charchegalu: Managing Urban Green Spaces

On 1st June, at the onset of the monsoon season in Bengaluru, B.PAC hosted a [session](#) under the initiative 'Urban Charchegalu' with Mr. B. L. G. Swamy, Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP. The session, titled 'Challenges and Solutions in Managing Urban Green Spaces,' highlighted the importance of citizen participation in greening Bengaluru. Many volunteers are eager to plant saplings across the city, but there is often confusion about which species to plant and where to obtain them. The session aimed to address these concerns and offered valuable insights.

B.SAFE

A Visit to the National Youth Conference

B.PAC, represented by Ms. Siri T. K., B.SAFE Program Lead, participated in the National Youth Conference titled "Cities for Youth," a two-day event held in Jaipur and organized by SafetyPin on 9th and 10th May. The conference brought together over 100 young participants from across India to share their experiences and insights on urban well-being. The team engaged in meaningful conversations about amplifying young voices in urban design and planning, and they had the opportunity to help identify priorities and gaps in city planning and design.



B.SAFE Constituency: Phase 3

B.SAFE Constituency Phase 3 will begin with a Public Place Safety Audit of Govindrajnagar and Vijayanagar assembly constituencies. This initiative follows successful audits in Mahadevapura, Malleshwaram, Hebbal, and Dasarahalli assembly constituencies. We have commenced the selection process for B.SAFE Ambassadors, involving application review and in-person interviews. The initiative is scheduled to launch on the ground in July. This time the audit will include the collection of the latitude and longitude of approx 500+ locations under 6 categories of public places in the two constituencies, enabling precise mapping and targeted safety interventions based on spatial analysis.

B.MOBILE

Updates on the 'IRR Street - Standstill to Active' Initiatives

This initiative is one of B.PAC's flagship projects, launched in 2023, aiming to improve bus connectivity and pedestrian walkability along the IRR, alleviate traffic congestion, and create lively streets.

Audits and Recommendations

After conducting multiple audits, surveys, data analysis, and drawing inferences, we presented our recommendations to the concerned government departments and have been collaborating with them to implement changes on the ground.

Collaboration with Traffic Police

In a meeting chaired by Mr. M. N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), B.PAC shared these recommendations with Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of five traffic police stations and ACPs of the South East and Central

subdivisions.



Joint Site Inspections

We organized joint site inspections for road markings and traffic calming interventions with the BBMP Traffic Engineering Cell (TEC) East & South and the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP):

- **South East:** ACP, Adugodi and Madiwala Inspectors, from Madiwala Masjid junction to Sony World junction.
- **Central sub-division:** ACP and Ashoknagar Inspector, at Ejipura junction.
- **Ulsoor:** Sub-Inspector & JB Nagar Police, from Indiranagar KFC to the middle of Defence land.

Presenting Audit Findings

We presented the findings of these audits to Mr. BS Prahlad, BBMP Engineer-in-Chief, TEC, and RI team. These findings included recommendations on road markings and traffic calming, as well as audits of streetlights, bus waiting shelters, and kerb inlets. We also addressed issues of garbage, debris dumping, and hanging cables in a letter to the EIC.

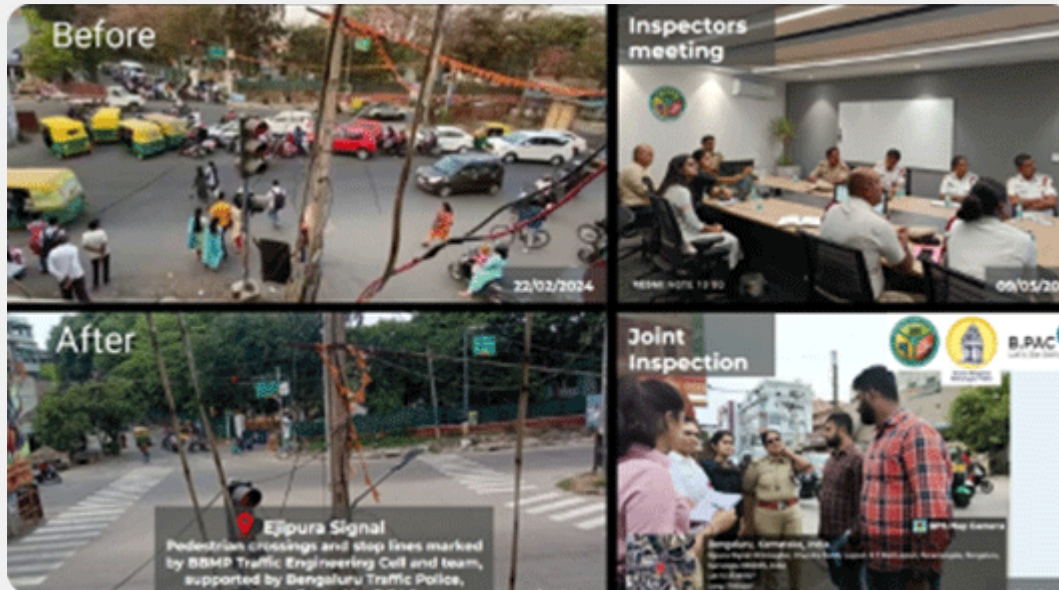


Pedestrian Access Proposal

In a meeting with the BBMP TEC team, headed by Mr. Arif (EE, TEC), B.PAC presented the Domlur flyover pedestrian access proposal, incorporating inputs from Mayapraaxis.

Implementation of Traffic Calming Measures

Supported by BTP and coordinated by B.PAC, BBMP TEC East implemented pedestrian crossings and stop lines at Ejipura junction and Indiranagar KFC Junction, and installed rumble strips near Indiranagar 14th and 15th main junctions. B.PAC and TEC East identified locations for traffic calming in the East zone, and the contractor referred to the relevant marking drawings developed by B.PAC, as advised by BTP.



Streetlight Audit

A streetlight audit was conducted at night by B.PAC with BBMP Electrical South AE and a contractor, from Madiwala Masjid to Ejipura Signal and Koramangala 80 ft. road.

We will release a report of our findings, on improving the IRR, in the public domain soon.

A Guest Lecture by B.PAC

On May 2nd, B.PAC participated in a three-day workshop titled 'Decoding Intersections,' organized by Compartment S4 and Thirty Cross, and supported by the Sustainable Mobility Network. The workshop was held for 20 Master's students in Urban Design from RV College of Architecture. Ms. Priyanka Krishnan, Research & Program Associate at B.PAC, was invited to present at the 'Learning from Practitioners' webinar. Her presentation, titled 'The Crossroad Dilemma,' shared valuable insights and learnings related to junctions and road safety on the Inner Ring Road. Key topics included walkability audit observations, traffic signal audit inferences, the importance of makeshift safe pedestrian access during road construction, the impact of pedestrians being excluded from design



SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVES

Menstrual Hygiene Day: Period Poverty Awareness

On Menstrual Hygiene Day, May 28th, we launched a campaign to raise awareness about period poverty, a critical global issue. Our social media campaign featured seven posts covering a range of topics, including the need for adequate provisions for girls and women in schools and workplaces, debunking period myths, involving men in the conversation, and promoting access to eco-friendly alternatives. The campaign also included a comprehensive [blog](#) that addressed all the primary aspects of menstrual hygiene and offered solutions to period poverty.

Draft Active Mobility Bill Awareness

In June, coinciding with World Bicycle Day and World Environment Day, we launched an awareness campaign highlighting the importance of the Draft Active Mobility Bill by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT). This draft bill provides legal provisions and rights to the most vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists, and aims to restore equitable allocation of road space for sustainable urban mobility. Our eight-post social media campaign explained the significance of passing this bill and the resulting benefits, including reduced dependency on fossil fuels and motor vehicles.

Urban Forestry Awareness

The decreasing green cover in Bengaluru has become a compelling issue, especially given the rising temperatures and the intense summer of 2024. Addressing the issue of preserving and developing urban greenery is now imperative. The B.PAC Urban Forestry Handbook for Bengaluru highlights the importance of urban forests and offers solutions by recommending indigenous trees suitable for various space constraints. We built a [webpage](#) where the citizens can access the handbook in English and Kannada. Our four-post social media campaign discussed tree planting options for areas with low, medium, high, and no space availability, as suggested by the handbook.

Honouring the Environmental Changemakers

Bengaluru is renowned for its environmental warriors, driven by a strong sentiment to preserve the city's past glory. Celebrating these champions and spreading awareness about their ingenuity, tenacity, and dedication is crucial, especially as Bengaluru faces rising temperatures and a depleting green cover. Our social media campaign aims to honour these individuals. It includes eight posts, each highlighting a celebrated environmentalist from various domains of sustainability, namely Anand Raaj, Suresh Heblikar, Vani Murthy, Vishwanath S., Dr. A. N. Yellappa Reddy, S. G. Neginhal, Sharachchandra Lele, and Ramakanth N. S. With this campaign, we aim to inspire and reignite the passion for the environment, and nurture the progress of sustainable development.

Bangalore Political Action Committee B.PAC

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