**Press Release**

**B.PAC conducts “The Greater Bengaluru Authority: A Pathway to Better Governance of Namma Bengaluru Conclave”**

**October 8, 2025, Bengaluru:** The proposed Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) marks a significant step towards strengthening urban governance and driving holistic transformation in the city. To deliberate on its vision, legislative framework, and institutional alignment, the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC), in collaboration with Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru, hosted a day-long conclave titled **“The Greater Bengaluru Authority – Pathway to Better Governance of Namma Bengaluru”.**

The conclave hosted interactive sessions with **D K Shivkumar,** Deputy Chief Minister of Govt of Karnataka and Bengaluru Development **Rizwan Arshad**, MLA, Shivajinagar, and Chairman, Joint Select Committee on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024 spoke about the implementation of the GBA bill and **Maheshwar Rao,** GBA Commissioner.

The event brought together legislators, senior administrators, urban planners, policy experts, and citizens to collectively reimagine Bengaluru’s governance model and chart a roadmap towards a more sustainable, efficient, and citizen-centric city.

**Key Sessions and Highlights**

**Transformative Vision for Bengaluru with Greater Bengaluru Authority**

Delivering the keynote address, **Shri. D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister,** outlined the Government of Karnataka’s vision for a unified and efficient governance structure under the GBA framework, in conversation with **Maya Sharma,** Senior Journalist.

He reiterated the government’s commitment to infrastructure, waste management, mobility, and service delivery reforms, stating:

“We will be adding one more ward and making it 369 wards. We will expedite the 104 km Bengaluru Business Corridor soon and fast-track elevated corridors, tunnels, and road projects across the city.”

“I urge all Bengalureans, especially the youth, to join us — let us all build a greater Bengaluru.”

**Context of the Greater Bengaluru Authority**

In an in-depth conversation with Shri. Rizwan Arshad, MLA, Shivajinagar, and Chairman, Joint Select Committee on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, and Shri. Ravichandar V, Member, Brand Bengaluru Committee — the discussion, moderated by Smt. Nithya Mandyam, Journalist, The Times of India, explored the legislative intent and citizen impact of the proposed Bill.

Shri. Rizwan Arshad emphasized the importance of decentralisation for a truly citizen-centric city, stating:

“If Bengaluru Municipality has to be citizen-centric, it has to be decentralised. Each part of Bengaluru has a different problem. Governance has to be near people, and that’s why we have created multiple corporations — to bring governance closer and more accountable.”

He also clarified misconceptions regarding financial pooling, reaffirming that,

“Each corporation will collect its own taxes. In case of any revenue deficit, it will be the responsibility of the State Government to bridge the gap.”

**Panel Discussion - Building Synergy for Better Governance**

A panel discussion featuring **Shri. Maheshwar Rao. M,** IAS, Chief Commissioner, GBA; Shri **Dr. Ravishankar J,** IAS, Managing Director, BMRCL; **Shri Karee Gowda,** IAS, CEO BSWML, **Shri Dr Anup Shetty,** DCP West, **Shri Dr Rajendra KV,** IAS, Commissioner West City Corporation; **Shri. Prabhakar Reddy,** CTMO, BMTC; **Shri. R.K. Misra,** Urbanist and Director, B.SMILE; **Naresh Narasimhan,** Urbanist and **Shri. Harish N,** Advocate and Parliamentary Expert, explored ways to strengthen coordination between parastatal agencies and local bodies. The session was moderated by **Smt. Revathy Ashok,** Hon. Managing Trustee & CEO, B.PAC.

**Ms Revathy Ashok raised a concern about the GBA not having a chapter on mobility whereas there are specific chapters devoted to health, education, poverty alleviation, social justice, waste management etc. and wanted to know how the GBA will address mobility when there was no explicit mention of the same.**

**Maheshwar Rao responded to this concern saying that he agrees that mobility is very key concern for the GBA and one of his priority is to improve the quality of walkability of pedestrians by improving footpaths, removing obstructions and encouraging active mobility. He assured that despite there being no mention about mobility in the GBA, mobility would be a key priority for him and his officers.**

Mr Karee Gowda on being asked about large scale dumping of debris, garbage and discarded item like sofa sets and sanitary ware on the roadside he mentioned that soon across the city there will be a weekly collection drive for ]all such discarded items and he announced that a similar collection drive could be conducted for small renovation debris.

This initiative by B.PAC and Mount Carmel College underscores the importance of participatory governance and institutional synergy in realizing the vision of a “Greater Bengaluru.” The conclave reaffirmed the city’s commitment to a governance model that is decentralized, transparent, and citizen-first, paving the way for a more liveable and globally competitive Bengaluru.

For more information:

Sachin AT | [sachiin@bpac.in](mailto:sachiin@bpac.in) | 7349542201

Amruth B | [amruth@bpac.in](mailto:amruth@bpac.in) | 91646 04632

**About B.PAC**

Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) is a non-partisan nonprofit organization that aims to improve governance in Bengaluru and to enhance the quality of life of every citizen. B.PAC is specifically targeting good governance practices, integrity and transparency in all arms of the government, improving the quality of infrastructure in the city, and identification and support of strong candidates for public office at all levels of governance in Bengaluru city. Learn more at <https://bpac.in/>