




NAVA TARANGA


BENGALURU NAVANIRMANA PARTY


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As we near completion of 4-months since the lockdowns and unlockdowns kicked in, it feels like many generations have elapsed in between. As part of a Federation with more than 770 Apartment RWAs across the city of Bengaluru housing more than half a million people and perhaps employing another half a million, it has been a very hectic few months of enabling a part of Bengaluru's citizenry keep their balance and play a role in helping the city cope up. As I pause and look back on what learnings has this pandemic brought about to our dear city, the following are the bittersweet reflections:

The virus brought the good and the bad within the people in equal measure. There were many examples of residents from our member apartments jumping in to volunteer on various initiatives, be it forming resident task-forces to support people in quarantine to painting social-distancing marks at neighborhood stores to helping farmers clear stock through direct-selling fairs at their apartments. And then there were instances of some RWAs angering not-so-happy residents with some trigger-happy rules and regulations spawning endless debates on social-media on liberty, power, authoritarianism etc. My favorite one is the clockwise/anti-clockwise walking rule imposed by some RWAs.

The pandemic provided an opportunity for the citizens to collaborate with the city's administrators as peers and partners rather than as adversaries or service-providers. We have worked with some very smart and professional officers from the BBMP, City Police, Dept. of Health – this pandemic has given them an opportunity to reach out, seek inputs, put together innovative solutions and keep the citizens afloat in battling the virus. The battle has only started, as it appears with increase number of infections in our city, but the silver lining has been a new momentum to the sarkara seeking collaboration of citizen-groups and RWAs – it appears that there is opportunity within the pandemic to usher in a new normal in collaborative governance, and this is a new normal that we should like!

The lockdowns have also done a world of good to the environment of our city – lakes got a refresh, the air got some respite, the trees enjoyed the summer showers and the birds and strays moved around with an earlier unknown abandon.

As life normalizes to live with lockdowns and unlockdowns, will these 4-months turn the page on the history of Bengaluru? Only time will tell.



VIKRAM RAI
*General Secretary,
Bangalore Apartments' Federation*

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DID YOU KNOW?

Chennai was built by Francis Day of East India Company with an intention of making it into a colonial centre 413 years ago. Jobb Choronak built Kolkata 370 years ago. Bombay was built by Portuguese and they gifted it to British King Charles. The only City that was built by a Desi ruler is Bengaluru, which was given shape to 480 years ago.

Online Education by Dr. Aparna Dalal

"Wake up buddy! your class starts in 15 minutes!!"

"I don't have to go to school Mom!"

"Well,yeah....lucky U! The school has come to youwish my school days were like this ."

A typical morning in most households these days with the lock town continuing and no cure for the infectious Corona virus, online classes have become the 'new normal' for most parents with kids of school going age .

While we do understand the increased number of screen hours involved, Online classes hold quite a few merits that make them very useful at this hour.

For example, right to education ,it is a fair ask to not expose our children specially under the ages of 10 years to the dangers of a relatively unknown infection with no decisive cure or vaccinehowever, it does not mean that as adults we take away the precious hours of structured learning that they are entitled to as kids.

Along with this ,it helps avoid the early morning rush to catch the school bus thus are comfortable for working parents also.

Online classes have made education global!!

They help the child to improve his or her skills in how to navigate through an online portal of learning at an early age that would prove very helpful while attending lectures and excellent academic courses that are offered internationally but can't be accessed due to geographical limitations.

Having said this, I do feel that pre primary kids do not have the attention span for online classes and hence should not be forced to attend the same....this should be optional for them.

I look at online classes as screen time totally worth its while.

The challenge, however, lies with parents on how to replace the additional television and phone time with useful physical activities.

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No Spitting Campaign



BNP leader Laly Randolf organized a 'NoSpittingCampaign' on 28th June 2020 in Kasavanahalli – BBMP Ward No.150 in coordination with BBMP and Beautiful Bengaluru. While Laly was a remote coordinator, Odette from Beautiful Bengaluru was coordinating the boots on the ground. Laly said “Her(odette) presence gave a lot of confidence because I was the remote coordinator.”

“My team was new to all these but was guided step by step beforehand. Her presence gave a boost to everything. Many passersby, including police personnel joined. Auto drivers wanted to stick the posters on their autos. Eventually, many who passed by without masks got fined, too...and it became an impactful event.”



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BNP ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Trees regulate the microclimate, reduce the stress of pollution, and increase the levels of oxygen in the air. An abundance of green cover is what gives Bengaluru its nickname, the garden city of India. Sadly, they are also neglected and unaccounted for. Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party is committed to preserving and protecting trees by conscious implementation of town planning norms.

Read our manifesto [here](#) and give us your feedback.



Rs.800 per bed for CCC episode highlights the culture of splurging in BBMP. 'Cost-Benefit' analysis is anathema to decision makers in BBMP even in normal times when work orders are issued worth thousands of crores of Rupees. Times of shortage are like 'harvest time' for corrupt corporators and officers who see abundant opportunity to make hay. To stop this, executive orders by state government are not enough. At the most they prevent one scam. But if the 'culture' must change, citizens should change the corporators. Next time, elect corporators who are known for their honesty and ethical behavior.



SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

BNP Belief Series
Every Sunday

26th July & 2nd Aug, 2020 | 5 PM Onwards

BNP Quiz
*Every alternate Friday's
(First and Third)*

31st July & 14th Aug, 2020 | 7 PM Onwards

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