



29th Edition || October 2024 Roundup

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Message from the Founder

Dear Bengalurigas,

Of late, we are seeing increasing cases of conflict between "locals" & "outsiders" in Bengaluru. This stems largely from the fact that the population of Bengaluru has a large proportion of residents who were not born & brought up in Bengaluru/Karnataka. Some statistics indicate that less than 50% of Bengaluru residents have Kannada as their mother tongue.

These conflicts mostly revolve around 3 different aspects: 1) whether Kannada should be the mode of communication; 2) whether jobs should be reserved for Kannadigas in Bengaluru/Karnataka and 3) whether outsiders are responsible for the multiple problems that Bengaluru faces. I will discuss the first point of conflict in this newsletter and the other 2 points in the next one.

Before that, I would like to place on record my firm view on this topic at an overall level, specifically in the context of the "unity in diversity" principle that India has always firmly stood for. We are Indians first and foremost, and we put our country ahead of everything else.

Regardless of our place of birth, our ethnicity, our mother tongue, our spoken languages or our domicile, we all take immense pride in being Indians, which is the 'unity' aspect. However, in the same vein, it is important that each of us put in sincere efforts to understand, learn & integrate into the local language, culture, heritage & history of the state we live in, which is the 'diversity' aspect.

The sentiments expressed above articulate my stance on the first point of conflict mentioned earlier. People who come to reside in Bengaluru/Karnataka should definitely make an effort to learn Kannada, understand the history & heritage of Karnataka as well as Bengaluru and also do their best to integrate into the local culture of the state/city. The same principle holds good for people born in Karnataka who have chosen to live in any other state.

I would like to highlight a very important point in the discourse above, which has been missing in the narrative created thus far. It is equally important for the Government of Karnataka and for locals to encourage and enable everyone to learn Kannada through various Government initiatives and help all residents to integrate into the local culture in a seamless & friendly manner. The initiative of Azzu Sulthan, an auto driver from Jakkur, who calls himself Auto Kannadiga, is a wonderful case study. He is encouraging everyone to learn Kannada by putting a poster in his vehicle listing basic Kannada phrases and their English translations.

It takes two hands to clap and it is extremely important that people who have come to earn their livelihood in Bengaluru try to learn the local language, history, heritage & culture. At the same time, it would be a welcome move if the Government & locals could reach out to enable other residents to achieve this objective. This is the fundamental underpinning needed to foster and maintain a harmonious society without conflicts, which is so crucial for Bengaluru's growth prospects.

As always, I am happy to receive inputs and feedback from you at srikanth.narasimhan1975@gmail.com



SRIKANTH NARASIMHAN
BNP Founder & General Secretary

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(BNP's own Cartoon Series) - OCTOBER



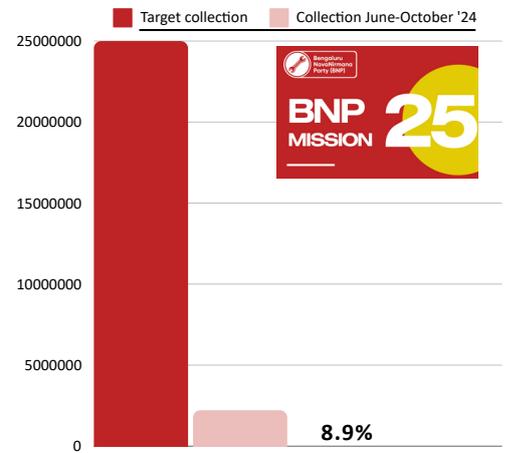
CAMPAIGN UPDATES

(Developments on BNP's Ongoing Central Campaigns)

BNP MISSION 25 INCHES FORWARD

BNP Mission 25 is inching forward steadily and BNP hopes to realise its ambitious initiative to win 25 out of 225 wards in the upcoming BBMP Election. A heartfelt thanks to BNP Mithras Linto V. Antony, Subhash Balachandran and Aroon Raman for their generous October donations, towards achieving **BNP Mission 25**. Their support certainly motivates and inspires the BNP. Grateful acknowledgement to **Aroon Raman** who has already helped BNP to mobilise more than ₹25,000 for BNP Mission 25.

If each BNP Mithra can help to mobilise additional funds, BNP can meet its target of raising ₹2.5 crores, to help win 25 out of the 225 wards. Let us plan new strategies to achieve this important BNP Mission!



To Donate, click [HERE](#) or scan / click the QR Code

If you want to learn about the **BNP Mithra** Initiative and get involved, please message us at **+91 83106 89931**

Bengaluru NavaNirman Party



OFFICIAL INTERACTIONS WITH BBMP (OCTOBER)

BNP Governing Council (GC) Member and Zonal Leader (Bommanahalli) **Lalithamba B V** and BNP GC Member and Zonal Leader (Bengaluru South) **Poongothai Paramasivam** met a few officials at the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Head Office on 25th October 2024. At the Revenue Department, the BNP team met Smt. Lakshmidevi (Joint Commissioner Revenue). The discussion centred on the e-khata registration issue, Encumbrance Certificate (EC) download issue, and the process of amending the property to reflect the correct Zone. Currently, there are many property owners paying Property Tax based on erroneous higher Zone classification.



The BNP team submitted a letter at the Forest Department, requesting officials to clear the ground after tree cutting/trimming activity. The team also discussed the Tree Census, and highlighted the perils of growing the Conocarpus (Buttonwood or Button Mangrove), a tropical evergreen tree, known to be a water guzzler and to cause severe allergic reactions. This invasive species has already been banned in some Indian states like Gujarat and Telengana for these reasons.

At the Mental Health & Tobacco section, the BNP team submitted a letter to enforce strict rules and regulations on tobacco product usage and to take adequate measures against unrestricted sale of cigarettes near school premises and hotels, and to counter smoking in public places. Too many cigarette shops have been opened in many urban areas. The BNP team was informed that shortly, this Section will be inviting citizens to get actively involved with the BBMP to spread the message in schools/colleges regarding the risks of tobacco usage.

Continued...



CAMPAIGN UPDATES

(Developments on BNP's Ongoing Central Campaigns)

Continued...

Discussions with Sri. Chandra Shekar, Deputy Director of Horticulture focused on the Hasiru Mitra Program and interaction with citizens. The BNP team requested the initiation of a formal process for contractors and gardeners to report issues like park maintenance, broken infrastructure or safety concerns. This would allow BBMP to address these matters more efficiently and ensure that public spaces are maintained to meet the highest standards.

The team also met Sri. Manjunath, the IT head. They discussed updating the BBMP website with official contact details, project info and Sahaaya app-related issues.

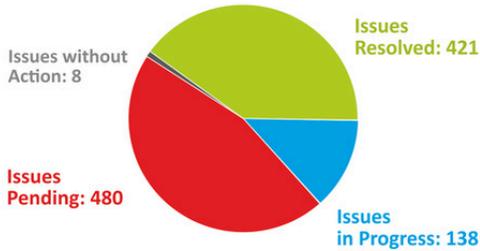
BNP will be following up all these matters in the coming weeks through periodic interaction with BBMP officials.



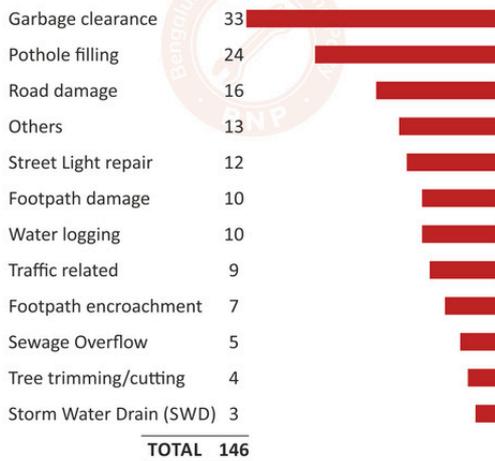
AREA SABHA ACTIVITIES

(Local civic issues addressed by BNP)

Civic Issues Raised October '23 – October '24: 1047



October's MOST-RAISED ISSUE CATEGORIES:



Civic Issues Resolved in October '24: 50

In October 2024, BNP Members, Leaders and Civic Warriors brought 146 civic issues to BNP for resolution.

Garbage clearance again topped the category of issues raised. This month, Water logging issues joined Potholes, Road Damage, Non-functional Streetlights and Footpath damage among the most-reported issues.

BNP resolved 50 civic issues in October 2024.

Pictures of a few of the resolved issues are given below. 

UTTARAHALLI

Pothole Filling



DODDA
GANAPATI

Footpath Damage



VIDYAPEETA

Streetlight Issue



HSR LAYOUT

Garbage Issue



To view updates of other issues resolved by followup by the BNP, please visit the ['Civic Issues Resolved' page](#) under the 'Work & Progress' tab on the BNP Website.

BNP thanks the active citizens who turned Civic Warriors by reporting the issue, and the relevant BBMP officials and staff who worked to close these issues.

YOU too can become a Civic Warrior by reporting the civic issues in your area.

The best way to become part of the solution to our civic woes is to join the BNP Area Sabha in your neighbourhood. These Area Sabhas meet regularly to take up, discuss and address civic issues in the local area.

To join, Whatsapp +91 83106 89931 today!



MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

(Pick of Special BNP Activities)

TEAM-BUILDING AT HSR MEET

Over 50 HSR Area Sabha Members (ASMs) gathered on 26th October 2024, at the Purva Fairmont Guesthouse for a Ward level meet. After the members introduced themselves, **BNP Founder and General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan** briefed them about BNP and its activities since inception. **Lalithamba B V** explained the functioning of Area Sabhas and underscored their successful record in resolving civic issues. She also highlighted how citizens would be empowered to decide projects for implementation in the Ward, once an elected BNP Corporator was in place. **BNP Ward Leader (HSR Layout) Tony Jayakumar** briefed the gathering about Team Building and the steps taken to win the Ward via its Ward-level structure. Each ASM would focus on connecting within their own community and urge more people to join the BNP fold.

Srikanth Narasimhan also shared his thoughts about BNP's campaign to speed up BBMP polls. The meeting concluded with a lively Q&A session. The BNP Team made many new connections at the meeting and felt energised to continue their Area Sabha engagements. The team is eagerly anticipating more such meetings in future. Many thanks to **Tony Jayakumar** for helping to arrange the meeting in the club house and the refreshments.



E-WASTE DISPOSAL DRIVE

With the collaboration of Saahas Zero Waste team, BNP representatives — **Lalithamba B V, Madhu Sudhan V** and **Jeevan Kumar Jyoti**, conducted an e-waste collection drive in HSR Layout on 6th October 2024. Between 80 to 100 kgs of e-waste was collected within a few hours, thanks to citizens who were committed to disposing their e-waste responsibly. BNP will be conducting similar drives in future. E-waste collected included various electrical devices and accessories such as batteries, bulbs, earphones, mobile phones, wires, CDs and printer cartridges.



Door-to-door collection service was also provided by the Sahaas team for citizens wanting to dispose off big appliances like washing machines, refrigerators, dishwashers etc. Residents are required to send a Whatsapp message to 73497 37586 giving the exact address.

A salute to the Saahas team for their commendable efforts and enthusiastic support for BNP's collection drive.



BNP GROUND REPORT

(Round-up of BNP's Regular Work)

Area Sabha Meetings (Local Level Community Meetings)

Since its inception, BNP has steadily been involved in rebuilding Bengaluru through honest and active participation in grassroots governance. BNP conducts both in-person and online Area Sabha Meetings (ASMs), to discuss civic issues of that particular Area and derive action plans for resolving the same.

IBLURU WARD (IN-PERSON MEETS)



On 23rd October 2024, the HSR Zone had a quick catch-up Area Sabha Meeting. **Lalithamba B V, Tony Jayakumar**, Shanmuga and Satish attended this meeting held at the Independence Park, in Sector 2 of HSR Layout, mainly to welcome Karthik to BNP and introduce him to BNP, and its goals of a better Bengaluru with greater community involvement.

This was followed by another Area Sabha Meet on 26th October 2024. In addition to **Lalithamba B V, Tony Jayakumar** and Shanmuga, Area Sabha Members Shreyasi, Venkatesh and Vidya too attended this meeting. More detailed, this meeting took the attendees through:



1. Introductions
2. Laying down objectives: Focus on community growth, engagement and participation in Area Sabha activities
3. Experience Sharing: Discussion on challenges, best practices and next steps to handle situations independently
4. Emphasis on Teamwork: Emphasis was laid on collaboration to ensure no one feels alone in their efforts
5. Membership Growth strategies: Discussion on how to increase membership growth in the Area Sabha and community participation
6. Engagement Drives planning: Planned drives for Voter ID Camps for new voter registration, clean-ups, park improvements, and community events to boost participation

Vote4Bengaluru (Voter ID Drives)



Lalithamba B V and BNP Leaders **Jeevan Kumar Jyoti Jeevan** and **Madhu Sudhan V** conducted a Voter ID registration drive in HSR Layout on 6th October 2024. A special feature of this camp was Durga, a student from Mangammanapalya who volunteered for the camp. She had gotten to know about BNP through the Bruhat Bengaluru Quiz (The BBQ) event held last month on 22nd September 2024. It was heartwarming to see her help a teenager in applying for new voter id. The camp also saw 3 senior citizens register for migration, with one of them being 87 years old!

BNP shall continue to encourage citizens to get their Voter IDs for their present address, initiating more such camps.

Reach Out Programs (Meetings & Activities to Engage with Local Communities)

ICEBREAKER MEETING

BNP Leader **Kesari Prasad** had an icebreaker meeting with Sri. Pramod Chandra of RBI Layout. As it was their first meeting, they exchanged personal details about families, work experiences, and got to know each other better. Then, **Kesari Prasad** briefly explained the origins of BNP, its aims, objectives, and organisational structure. Sri. Pramod Chandra will work to organise a physical meeting with RBI Layout residents.





MEDIA CONNECT

(BNP's interactions with the media)

PRESS RELEASES

[BNP's Press Release dated 14th October 2024](#) sought urgent action to resolve the serious public health and environmental hazards faced by the residents of Marathahalli, Mahadevapura and Bellandur, due to the lack of an Underground Drainage (UGD) System overflow of sewage onto roads and into roadside Storm Water Drains (SWD). Expressing concerns over the negligence of officials towards the complaints, Ram Kanala, resident and BNP Ward Leader for Munnekollal, said, "The SWDs in our area are now functioning as open sewers... They were supposed to build a culvert which has been pending for four years...". Addressing these long pending UGD lines, **BNP Zonal President (Mahadevapura) Vishnu Reddy** said, "For the past five years, both the residents and we at BNP have relentlessly pushed for the UGD lines, but our efforts have been ignored by the authorities. It's not a matter of funds or resources -it's pure negligence. The BBMP has shown no willingness to act. BBMP sits with a budget of ₹210 crore, but where are the basic amenities? Nothing has changed on the ground, and the residents continue to suffer while the authorities do nothing."

The second [PR released by BNP on 25th October 2024](#) brought attention to the need for immediate repair of Hosa Road — a crucial route linking Kasavanahalli and Electronic City. It highlighted the fact that Hosa Road falls under multiple Wards Bellandur, Kudlu, and part of a Panchayat. This has complicated matters, and authorities have failed to come together to resolve the issue. BNP asserted that this was no excuse for inaction and **Srikanth Narasimhan** emphasised the broader issue of governance, stating, "The delay in BBMP elections has left citizens vulnerable to problems like this. With no elected representatives in place, accountability is completely absent. There's no one pushing for solutions or addressing pressing issues. Problems like unmaintained roads, drains and poor infrastructure have multiplied, as authorities are not being held responsible. This administrative void is allowing critical issues to be overlooked, directly impacting the daily life of residents." BNP is urging authorities to take immediate steps to repair the road, highlighting that the longer this issue is ignored, the more challenging and dangerous it will become, especially with rains further deteriorating the road's condition.

You can access all the BNP Press Releases on our Namma BNP website [HERE](#)

BNP IN THE NEWS

Please click [HERE](#) to see how different Media organisations have supported BNP by publishing articles on our endeavours to resolve civic issues in Bengaluru.



VOTER COUNT TOUCHES NEW HIGH

In its annual exercise, the BBMP published the updated draft electoral rolls on 29th October 2024, revealing that the voter count in Bengaluru has crossed 1 crore. Since the last revision in January this year, around 1.98 lakh new voters have been added, while 85,321 names have been removed. Dr. Selvamani, BBMP's Special Commissioner (Election), announced that citizens have time until 28th November 2024, to raise objections to the draft rolls. Citizens can check the draft voter list on the [Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka website](#) or the BBMP's website. Those born before 1st January 1, 2007, can enrol as new voters by visiting the [Election Commission's portal](#) or by using the voter helpline app.

GATEWAY TO TRAGEDY

Parks are meant to be safe green spaces promoting good health and social life, not death traps causing the tragic loss of innocent lives. The shocking death of an 11-year-old BBMP school student crushed by a falling playground gate is a shrill wake-up call for the civic body. The rusted gate was reportedly in poor condition, just two years after its installation. While the officers and contractors responsible may be penalised post-facto for their negligence, this cannot compensate for the loss of a child's life. The BBMP now plans to create a separate cell for playground maintenance. The incident reflects a larger systemic governance failure: the absence of clear standards to hold the government accountable. Moreover, with the long-delayed BBMP elections, there is no Municipal Council, and no Ward Committees to spearhead park maintenance.

FLOOD HAVOC IN IT CITY

Bengaluru set a new record for the highest daily rainfall on 21st October 2024, with 186.2 mm recorded at the India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s GKVK station in the north of the city. This is the highest daily rainfall registered in Bengaluru in 27 years, surpassing the previous record of 178.9 mm on 1st October 1, 1997. This record rainfall on 21st and 22nd October led to widespread flooding, causing the evacuation of many people trapped inside buildings or left stranded on streets. Nearly 100 lakes overflowed and over 1,500 houses were flooded. Inundated roads led to chaos and the police diverted traffic in many areas. A cloudburst near Yelahanka and Vidyanarayapura caused major water-logging in 1,030 houses in Yelahanka Zone alone. Clearly Bengaluru remains highly vulnerable to heavy downpours and the civic administration has been unable to rectify this problem.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BUILDING COLLAPSE

Triggered by the heavy rains, a tragic building collapse occurred in the Anjanadri Layout in North Bengaluru on 22nd October 2024. This collapse killed eight workers and caused injuries to several others. The Hennur police arrested the building owners, Muniraja Reddy and his sons Bhuvan Reddy and Mohan Reddy. They also detained Muniyappa, the contractor of the collapsed multi-storey building, to ascertain the extent of the violations. Based on the complaint by Mohammed Arshad, a labourer from Bihar, the Hennur police registered a case under Sections 100 (culpable homicide), 125 (rash and negligent act to endanger human life), 270 (public nuisance) of the BBMP Act and under RERA Act. The complainant alleged that the building owners, contractor and mason used sub-standard materials and failed to provide any safety measures. Moreover, they had failed to secure permission from the concerned authorities for the construction.

COMMITTEE TO TACKLE FLOOD ISSUES

Following the unprecedented rainfall in Bengaluru during October 2024, the Karnataka Government formed a committee under Deputy Chief Minister (Dy. CM) DK Shivakumar on 23rd October 2024 to address severe flooding issues. The high-level committee comprises the BBMP Chief Commissioner and heads from the Information Technology (IT), Biotechnology (BT) and Startup Vision Groups, as well as representatives from tech companies, industry associations, business parks, and citizen groups. The committee intends to resolve urgent problems triggered by the recent rain, which have adversely impacted Bengaluru's infrastructure and the functioning of the corporate sector. It will focus on assessing damage, identifying challenges, and devising solutions to lessen future weather-related impacts.



Following an initial assessment at Kendriya Vihar, Yelahanka, which was impacted by severe waterlogging, Dy. CM Shivakumar directed civic authorities to clear drain encroachments on a priority basis. Stakeholders and citizens will be watching intently to judge how effectively this Committee can identify the causes and deal with the vexatious problem of periodic flooding in namma Bengaluru.

BBMP'S ROAD-WIDENING INITIATIVE

To meet infrastructure requirements for rising vehicular density in the outskirts, BBMP decided to widen eight roads, including six in Yelahanka zone alone, as a long-term solution to traffic congestion. BBMP proposed these road-widening works in its 2024-25 budget and a ₹100-crore action plan was recently approved by the civic administration. These six roads in Yelahanka Zone are expected to significantly improve connectivity to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). BBMP is slated to spend ₹50 crore initially for preparing the detailed project report, acquiring land, demolishing roadside structures and re-asphalting the existing width. Later, the Palike will spend an additional ₹50 crore to further develop the widened road. While road-widening is a positive move, the real solution to ease congestion lies in developing effective public transport, thus discouraging the use of private vehicles.

URBAN WATERWAY IN THE WORKS

The K-100 waterway project, connecting Shantala Silk Junction in Majestic to Koramangala in BTM, and ultimately draining into Bellandur Lake, is set to become an urban green asset for the residents of Bengaluru by January 2025. This ₹179-crore project has been initiated by the BBMP, with architect and urban expert Sri. Naresh Narasimhan of Mod Foundation, developing the concept. It is being supported by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and other semi-official agencies to ensure that the 12-km long Rajakaluve remains sewage-free. Currently, this is the only Rajakaluve that does not cause flooding even during heavy rain. Once the BWSSB's intermediate stage pumping station in Shantinagar becomes operational, there will be almost zero sewage in the drain. A pathway will enable people to walk from Double Road to Bellandur. Advanced technology such as alert systems, water-level sensors and automatic gate closure to pathways have also been installed along the K-100 waterway.



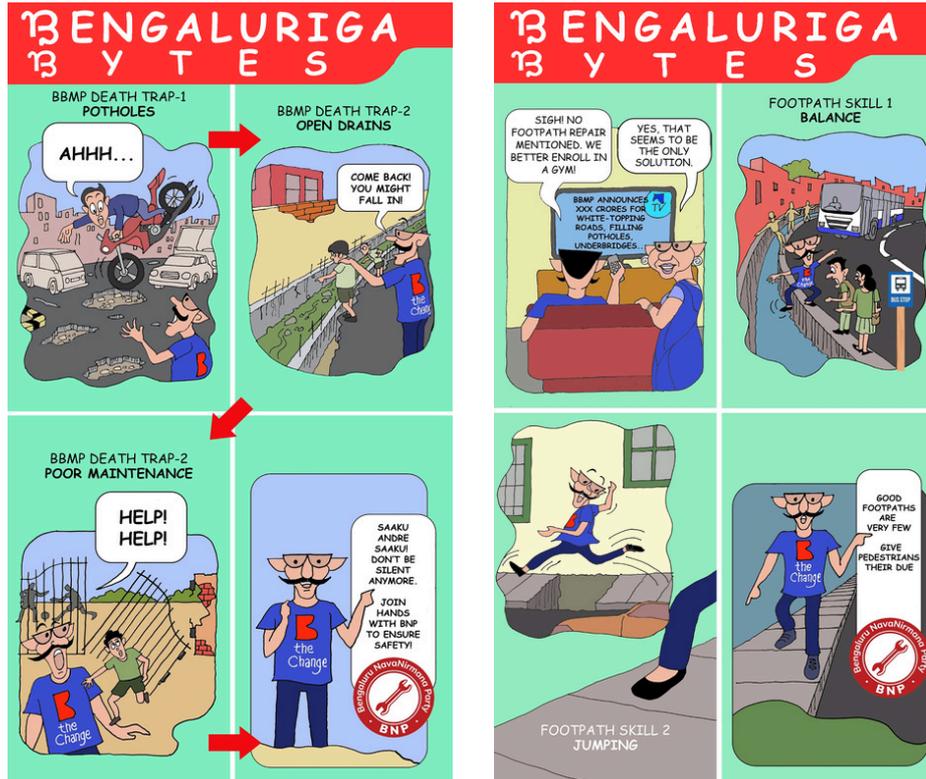
BENGALURIGA BYTES — SEPTEMBER

(BNP's own Cartoon Series)

Bengaluriga Bytes (BB), the BNP's tongue-in-cheek look at life in Bengaluru, draws attention to pressing civic issues that need rectification if Bengaluru is to become a model city.

Enjoy the Instagram reels of October's cartoons by clicking on the images. (If you would like to see them as images, zoom in, or, go [HERE](#) to see all the BB cartoons published so far).

Like, Share, Comment and Follow [namma.bnp on Instagram](#) for more.



That's it for now. Thank you for reading. Next one, next month.

Your support helps BNP go from strength to strength!

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Or [Volunteer](#) and join hands with the BNP –
India's first and only city-based Political Party!

Stay updated on BNP's activities. Follow us on



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