



32nd Edition || January 2025 Roundup

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Message from the Founder

Dear Bengalurigas,

The Sham called Ward Committee Meetings!

One key poll promise made by the Congress party in Karnataka was to hold the long-delayed BBMP and other municipal/panchayat elections immediately after coming to power. Like any other poll promise, it has been conveniently shelved. No wonder people have lost their trust in politics and in our politicians!

In the absence of an elected Council, BBMP has come under the administration of the State Government which is currently vested with full authority to manage the city. One key aspect of BBMP governance is to engage with citizens through Ward Committee Meetings, which it is mandatory to hold, at least once a month. Unfortunately, Ward Committee Meetings have not been conducted in most wards for quite a few years.

When some citizens confronted Deputy Chief Minister Sri. D.K. Shivakumar with this issue, his first defensive response was to claim that these meetings were not mandatory. He subsequently relented under citizens' pressure, and ordered BBMP to hold Ward Committee Meetings. And here the sham starts once more! BBMP has now announced that Ward meetings will be held every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. This timing effectively rules out the participation of many interested citizens for whom it would be a working day. A few years ago, we had a system of having Ward Committee Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month. This change in schedule seems to be a deliberate ploy to keep citizens out.

Another questionable aspect is the appointment of AEs/AEEs as Nodal Officers. This is an absolute sham, since they neither have the seniority nor the power to perform the role of the Nodal Officer. The Nodal Officer is the equivalent of an elected Corporator and should have the seniority and the authority to engage with citizens and take decisions on projects that are truly necessary for the Ward.

These ill-conceived moves clearly suggest that the Government is conducting these meetings merely to fulfill a mandatory obligation rather than to genuinely boost Ward development. If such is the intent, can we truly expect a better future for our city from this Government? Absolutely not. Time for us Bengalurigas to really introspect on this matter!

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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CAMPAIGN UPDATES

(Developments on BNP's Ongoing Central Campaigns)

BNP's Campaign for a better GBGB

BNP is launching a crucial campaign to demand a stronger, citizen-centric Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB). The Bill, recently tabled in the Assembly, violates constitutional principles and ignores key recommendations from the Government's own Brand Bengaluru Committee.

With [BBMP elections possibly approaching](#), this is a critical moment to fight for Bengaluru's governance.

Click [HERE](#) to get a quick preview of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB), its challenges and BNP's demands, that would make the GBGB a truly effective Bill that will ensure that empowered, city-centric, elected authorities will govern Bengaluru, with vision and in line with the Constitution of India's mandate for City governance.

Watch this space in the next issue for updates and more information on BNP's response to the GBGB.

BRAINSTORMING AT BRANDING & STRATEGY WORKSHOP

BNP presents members with an exciting opportunity to express what makes the party unique and why it offers the best alternative for Bengaluru's future. Many BNP Members had shared creative ideas during the offsite programme in December 2024 on how to connect more effectively with Bengalurigas. BNP is taking steps to transform those brilliant ideas into a compelling narrative that appeals to the residents of Bengaluru.

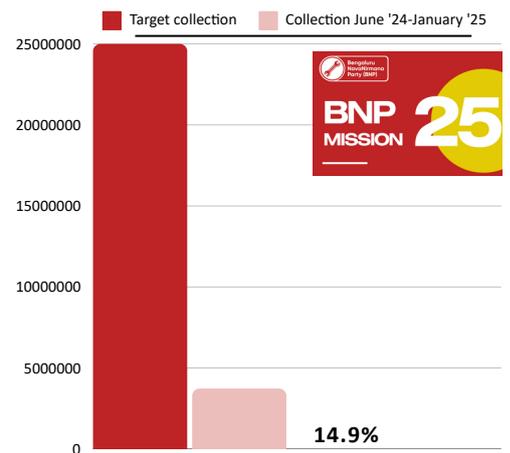


Ashutosh Wakankar, a Brand Strategy Consultant is currently working to create a powerful messaging strategy that captures the essence of BNP's Vision for Bengaluru. Several members attended his illuminating and thought-provoking workshop on brand strategy on 25th January 2025. Over the next two months, Ashutosh will speak to various team members to understand their perspectives, experiences and vision for BNP. These ongoing efforts will also include field research with citizen focus groups. It will culminate in an interactive workshop to finalize our messaging strategy.

CONTRIBUTORS TO MISSION 25

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Elections are expected to be announced in April 2025 and be held in May-June 2025. Meanwhile, **BNP Mission-25** Leaders geared up for a leadership meeting on 1st February 2025 to discuss **Mission 25** status, follow up on action items set during the Offsite Meeting, and decide the next steps for BNP's Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB) petition.

Under these circumstances, BNP is grateful to the **BNP Mithras** listed below for donating generously during the month of January 2025, to bring us closer to our target for **BNP Mission 25: Amarnath, Satish Karanth, Neelakantaksha TB, Anusuya T N, Girija Mural, Venkatarama Reddy, Raghuram Rathinam, Aslam Hirani, Kamesh Rastogi, Ravi Hiremath, Anuradha Nittur and Shyamala A Narayan.** Your contribution is valuable and a big thank you once again to all!



Bengaluru NavaNirman Party



Let's achieve **BNP Mission 25** together!

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**

Continued...



CAMPAIGN UPDATES

(Developments on BNP's Ongoing Central Campaigns)

Continued...

STANDARD AGENDA & TIMINGS FOR ASMs



BNP Area Sabha Meetings
2nd Sunday of every month
at 11:00 a.m.



Mark Your Calendars!

From the month of February 2025, BNP's Area Sabha Meetings (ASMs) will be held consistently on the 2nd Sunday of every month starting at 11:00 a.m. This decision was taken based on the feedback and voting from Members, based on their convenience.

A three-point Standard Agenda for these meetings has also been decided on:

1. Update on Civic Issues: Discussing the latest updates on civic issues relating to the Ward, including any potential follow-up actions.
2. Issue Reporting: Team members raising civic issues in the Ward. (It is essential to motivate team Members to raise more issues and actively participate in the discussions to resolve them.)

3. ASM Progress Tracking: Monitoring the conduct of ASMs and the number of Volunteers in the Ward, and brainstorming ideas to further improve these metrics.

Members are invited to be actively involved in these important ASMs and convert them into a pro-active and productive forum for planning and executing positive change in their areas and Wards.

ACTIVE REPORTING OF CIVIC ISSUES

Civic Issues resolution has become a very important plank in BNP's community service. This campaign depends heavily on all BNP members actively reporting unresolved civic issues in their wards. **Concerns may be reported either to your BNP Area WhatsApp Group or directly to +91 80951 30000 along with a picture indicating the location.**

No issue is too insignificant: broken footpaths / potholes / open drains / non-existent streetlights / non-functional CCTV cameras / blackspots / polluted lakes / under-developed parks/ encroachments or any other civic problem faced by residents / commuters / pedestrians. The BNP Team will inform the concerned officials. If the issue remains unresolved, inform the BNP Team for their follow up action. The BNP Media team will also reach out, collect relevant information for a Press Release, and send it to the media to escalate the issue, raise public awareness and push for meaningful solutions.

VOLUNTEERS FOR KANNADA CONTENT CREATION

BNP is currently bracing for an extensive campaign with regard to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill (GBGB). The Content Team will be working on this campaign with Press Releases, Petitions, Letters to authorities, dissemination of information to the general public through Social Media posts and other necessary content in both English and Kannada.

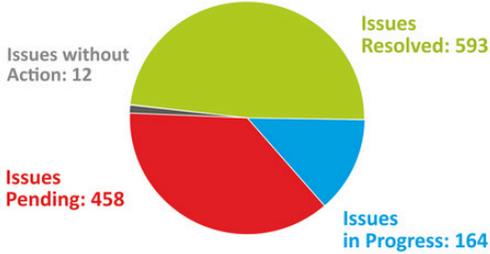
This will be followed with further communication about upcoming and ongoing activities at BNP. We are reaching out to check if anyone can help us with Kannada content creation / writeups / translations. If you would like to volunteer to join the core team that creates Kannada content for BNP, please fill out [this Google Form](#) with your name and phone number and we will reach out to you.



AREA SABHA ACTIVITIES

(Local civic issues addressed by BNP)

Civic Issues Raised October '23 – January '25: 1227



January's MOST-RAISED ISSUE CATEGORIES:

Street light repair	9
Garbage clearance	8
Others	7
Pothole filling	6
Footpath damage	5
Road damage	5
Traffic related	5
Footpath encroachment	4
Storm Water Drain	4
Borewell / BWSSB	2
TOTAL	55

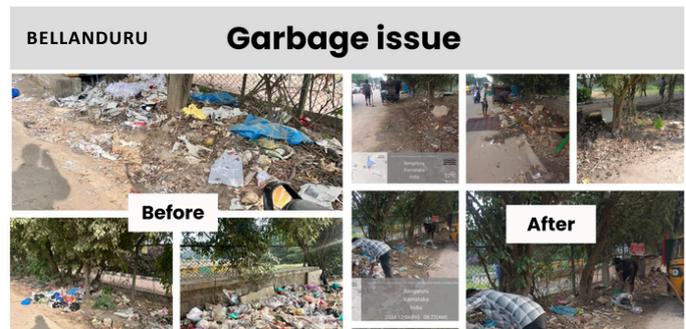
Civic Issues Resolved in January '25:- 51

In January 2025, **55** issues were brought to the BNP for resolution.

The first month of the new year saw the same categories of civic issues being recurrently raised. Non-functional street lights topped the list of issues raised in Jan '25. BNP was also called upon to help rope in official channels to deal with garbage clearance, pothole filling, footpath and road damage. Traffic related issues were a new category that arose on the list of requests for resolution.

BNP resolved 51 civic issues in December 2024.

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



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)

BNP MISSION 25 WARD CORE TEAM MEETS (IN-PERSON)

As part of the series of casual, focused local area meets to build ground-level support towards achieving BNP Mission 25, **BNP Founder and General Secretary Srikanth Narasimhan** met with the team from Rajarajeshwari Nagar.

RAJARAJESHWARI NAGAR MEET

Day: 18th January 2025

Attendees: **BNP Leader Varshini**, **BNP Ward Leader Narayan Raghavan** and BNP Area Sabha Members — Satish Karanth, Nagaraj B, Anand, Scindia ARC, Prasan Kumar, Amarnath, VG Kasal, Gajendra, Rama Krishnaiah, Prashanth MJ, Prakash, Natesh and Satya Narayan.

The BNP team extends its deepest gratitude to each of the attendees for making the event truly impactful with their participation.

You can read about the earlier core team meets in the 'Monthly Highlights' Section of the [November](#) and [December issues](#) of our Newsletter.



CITIZENS WELCOME E-KHATA CAMPS

With online e-Khata generation gaining momentum, BNP Leaders had swung into action to conduct regular e-khata camps. Last month, on 9th December 2024, when **BNP Leaders HLN Prasad and Kesari Prasad**, and **BNP Zonal Leader (Mahadevapura) Vishnu Reddy** had visited the RBI Layout Association in Konanakunte Ward to help Senior Citizens with getting their Ayushman Cards, they had also explained the process of getting an e-khata. Then, they had taken up 2-3 cases and generated the e-Khatas offline over the phone the next day.



A week later, **HLN Prasad** had gone and trained some members of the Association on how to generate an e-khata. Sri. Srinivasa K K and Sri. Siddalingaswamy from RBI layout had shown keen interest and actively involved themselves in understanding this process. It is a matter of pride and satisfaction for the BNP that the two residents went on to generate e-khatas for around 40-50 owners!

This month, on 26th January 2025, the BNP Team conducted another successful e-khata camp at Vithola Apartment in Kalena Agrahara. You can read more about this camp under 'Reach Out Programs' in the 'BNP Ground Report' Section.

BNP looks forward to empowering more citizens to generate e-khatas, with more camps in the coming months.

WARNING AGAINST TOXIC TREES

Conocarpus trees are highly hazardous due to their toxic sap and potential to cause skin irritation, allergic reactions and other respiratory health issues, especially in the winter, when pollination takes place. These trees also have aggressive, water-guzzling roots that can undermine even concrete structures. Several Indian States have banned the planting of these trees.

Madhu Sudhan, HSR Area Sabha Leader sounds a clear warning about these touch-me-not trees and their toxic effects. According to him, it is advisable to avoid touching Conocarpus trees; to keep children and pets away from them; to avoid eating its fruits; and to wear protective clothing, gloves and masks while working near these trees.



Continued...



MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

(Pick of Special BNP Activities)

Continued...

Madhu Sudan and team are currently working to identify and mark these trees to prevent potential harm. They plan to petition the Asst. Conservator of Forests to officially ban Conocarpus trees and to uproot those already planted under earlier afforestation schemes. This of course, is a massive undertaking that will take time. Meanwhile, vigilance is crucial and Madhu Sudan urges all BNP leaders to raise awareness about these toxic trees in their respective Wards.

BLACK SPOT TURNS BEAUTY SPOT

The black spot on the Main road next to the Gottigere Primary Health Centre (PHC) was a place people sought to avoid. Not only was the clutter of stinking, uncleared garbage an unbearable eyesore, but it was also an obvious public health hazard. The BNP Gottigere team decided that this mess outside a health centre was completely unacceptable. They planned to transform this black spot into a beauty spot!

They sought the help of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Solid Waste Management (SWM) team to remove footpath encroachments and clean up the mess. The stage was now set for beautification. The BNP team joined hands with the Primary Health Centre staff to paint the adjoining walls of the PHC with colourful mural paintings. Now that this black spot is transformed, the SWM team keeps the area regularly cleared and clean. The BNP Gottigere Team's beautification drive was so successful that it is now getting requests from residents in other Wards for help in transforming black spots in their areas.



Kudos to Ashwini, Pramela, Archana, Keerthi, Venkatesh, Ali, Feroz, Rithen, BNP GC Member and Zonal Leader (Bengaluru South) Poongothai Paramasivam (and her children!) and the PHC team for their inspiring efforts.



BNP GROUND REPORT

(Round-up of BNP's Regular Work)

Namma Samiti (Ward Committee Meetings)

HSR LAYOUT



A Ward Committee Meeting (WCM) was held for HSR Layout on 1st January 2025. **BNP Area Sabha Leader Madhu Sudhan** attended the meeting. Key issues discussed were that WCMs must be held regularly and notified earlier, and that we need the participation of officials from other Departments.

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

Meet with Residents of Sobha Dream Acres, Balagere

BNP Zonal Leader (Mahadevpura) Vishnu Reddy, and BNP Leaders Venkatachalam Subramaniam and Madhu Sudhan visited Sobha Dream Acres apartments on 12th January 2025.



The BNP Team spoke to the residents about BNP and the work being done by the party. They also shared how residents could involve themselves in the betterment of the civic situation in Bengaluru.

E-KHATA CAMP



On 26th January 2025, **Vishnu Reddy, HLN Prasad and BNP Leader Samara** conducted a successful e-khata camp at Vithola Apartment in Kalena Agrahara.

They teamed up with **BNP Leader Asha Nayak**, a resident of the complex, and generated around four e-khatas to demonstrate the process. One of the residents, Ms. Hema Reddy, learnt the process and undertook to teach others how to generate the e-khatas.

Connecting with citizens through such camps, helping them with their issues and empowering them, helps establish BNP's credo of enabling Citizens of Bengaluru.

We invite other Leaders to share details of their Reach Out programs so we can report the same here.



A Gender-inclusive City

Some positive news for Brand Bengaluru. The city has been named as the most gender-inclusive city in India, gaining the top rank in the 'Top Cities for Women in India (TCWI)' index (3rd edition) released by Avtar Group, which specializes in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) solutions. The report lauds Bengaluru as the most inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable city for working women. The TCWI index takes a data-driven approach, judging cities on three crucial metrics: Social Inclusion Score (SIS), Industrial Inclusion Score (IIS), and Citizen Experience Score (CES). These measures encompass factors like livability, safety, employment representation, women's empowerment, organisational inclusivity, skilling, caregiving support, transport infrastructure and quality of life. Bengaluru scored well across all these factors, particularly in skilling and employment for women, infrastructure development and caregiving support.

Ex-BBMP Councillors under ED Scrutiny

Alleged irregularities have surfaced in the BBMP's ₹970 crore project to dig borewells and build RO units during 2016-19. Apparent irregularities were detected in constituencies like Yeshwantpur, KR Puram, Byatarayanapura, RR Nagar and Bommanahalli. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) executed search warrants and launched operations at the BBMP's Head Office at NR Square on 7th and 8th January 2025 in connection with the alleged misappropriation of ₹400 crore. Media reports reveal that the ED has sought the full details of the Corporators of those Wards/Zones and also that of over 100 BBMP staff. The role of 43 former Councillors came under scrutiny as they had written letters seeking the release of funds. According to official complaints, funds were released for some undug and some not-as-deep-as-billed borewells. Hopefully, the ED probe will systematically and speedily unearth all irregularities in this project, recover misappropriated public funds and bring the culprits to justice.

More Questions over Tunnel Road Project

More questions have arisen over the Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the Hebbal-Silk Board tunnel scheme. The latest issue relates to a timestamp inconsistency: A photograph on page 216, part of the survey location, is dated 5th August 2023, months before the feasibility study was commissioned in January 2024. Other irrelevant, extraneous data from other cities that was being erroneously shown in this DPR. BBMP downplayed this as a 'compiling error' and the Delhi-based consultant was penalized ₹5 lakhs. Activists have listed other DPR issues and inconsistencies: non-compliance with the Master Plan; a car-centric approach to ease congestion; overlooking induced demand where higher road capacity tends to increase long-term vehicular congestion; impact of Metro Phase 3 project ignored; and no convincing arguments for boosting public transport share from 63% to 68%.

Paying the Price for Leachate in Landfills

The Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) estimates that a total of 3,074 Million Litres (ML) Leachate has accumulated in Mittaganahalli and Kannur landfill sites, and it will take four years and ₹553 crore to treat it. However, this quantum is estimated to increase by 230.60 ML, due to the expected nine-month gap between tendering and commencement of work. The report proposes two Leachate treatment plants of 2 MLD processing capacity, at a cost of ₹1.68 per litre, totalling ₹553 crore, to treat the full backlog of accumulated leachate. Activists have questioned the high estimated cost, since this covers only primary treatment. Secondary and Tertiary treatments will definitely escalate the cost even higher.

Cauvery Water Connection for all Apartments

Apartment complexes in the city, many wholly dependent on erratic groundwater supplies at exorbitant rates, will now get Cauvery water connections. The State Government has mandated that Cauvery water connections have to be provided to all apartment complexes. This is intended to reduce the excessive exploitation of groundwater by the water mafia and control the rates. Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister Sri. DK Shivakumar stated on 30th January 2025 that the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has been instructed to provide these connections and water tariffs will be notified in due course. Although 15,000 water connections have already been provided under the Cauvery 5th Stage project, at least 20,000 more connections are required. The government is also considering a one-time-settlement scheme to regularise unauthorised water connections. The Bangalore Apartments Federation (BAF) has pointed out that the Cauvery connection charge is high and involves many hidden costs. BAF representatives have urged BWSSB to hold public consultations with apartment communities to reach a consensus on affordable connection costs and reasonable water tariffs.



Continued...

No Utilities sans Occupancy Certificates

The eligibility rules for getting utility connections have been tightened, following a Supreme Court directive. Buildings without an Occupancy Certificate (OC) will henceforth not get utility connections. BBMP Chief Commissioner Sri. Tushar Girinath has declared that no electricity, water supply or sewage connections should be given to any building that lacks an OC. In directives issued on 9th January 2025, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) and BWSSB have been instructed not to give any such connections. They have also been directed to withdraw temporary/permanent power, water and sewerage connections already given to buildings declared by BBMP as unauthorised or in violation of building regulations. Furthermore, before issuing even temporary connections, the utilities are now obliged to verify whether the buildings in question have valid A-khatas and approved building plans.

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

Your support helps BNP go from strength to strength!

Not yet a member of the BNP? [Become a BNP Member](#) today!
Or [Volunteer](#) and join hands with the BNP –
India's first and only city-centric Political Party!

Stay updated on BNP's activities. Follow us on



To know more, visit our BNP Website nammabnp.org
